

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 inventions 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

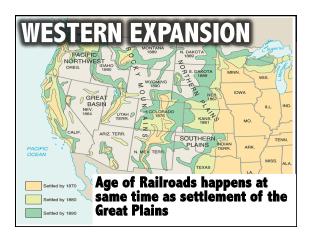




Land and loan subsidies given by the <u>federal government</u> to the railroad companies

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





- Union Pacific: Built from Omaha, Nebraska to the West - Irish workers
- 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 zone 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?

- Dominate philosophy of the time
- period: Laissez Faire – Leave alone, no regulation

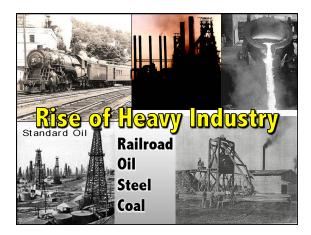
Farmers most vocal group calling for reform- Grange Movement

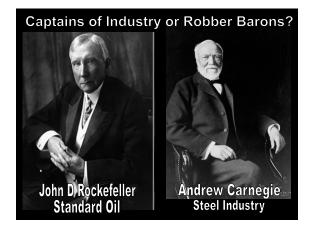
- Munn v. Illinois (1877) State could regulate business
- Wabash case: states could NOT
- regulate interstate commerce Interstate Commerce Act
- Set up Interstate Commerce
- Commission
- Federal government would oversee
- Banned pooling, rebates, and rate fixing
- Companies had to publish rates





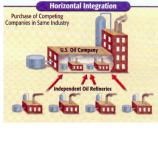




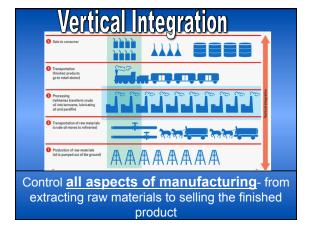


Horizontal Integration

- Controlling all competition in a particular industry.
- Merging competing oli companies into one giant corporation.
- Consolidating all competitors to monopolize a market.







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"





Public outcry of growing corporate power

<u>Sherman Anti-Trust Act 1890</u>

Outlawed trusts & other monopolies that fix prices & restrained trade

Ineffective at regulating corporations: Used to attack labor unions

LABOR UNIONS

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- Challenges for Unions
 Division between skilled vs.
 unskilled workers
- Ethnic and racial divisions Hostility from corporations, no protection by
- no protection by government
- Scabs- replacement workers
- Court Injunctions
- Yellow-dog contracts: could not join a union
- Blacklist- banned from
- working
 Public opinion- unions viewed as radical
- 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 Samuel Gompers focused on skilled workers
- Focus on "bread & butter" issueswages, working conditions
- By 1900 it was the largest union

LABOR UNREST

- Great Railroad Strike of 1877: Rutherford B Hayes uses federal troops to end labor unrest
- Haymarket Bombing 1886: Bomb explodes during a public meeting
- during a public meeting in Haymarket Square
- Public views labor union movement as radical and violent
- Homestead Strike 1892: Henry Clay Frick uses a lockout, private guards, and scabs to defeat steelworkers at Carnegie's factory. Pullman Strike 1894



Great Railroad Strike of 18

