

# Chapter 5

## Becoming an Industrial Society

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Section III	Competency 5 / Objective 3
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### I. INDUSTRIALIZATION, IMMIGRATION, AND URBAN LIFE

#### IMPORTANT INVENTIONS

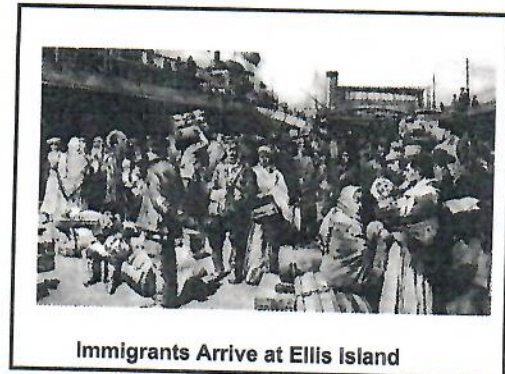
In the years following the Civil War, the United States continued to become an industrialized society. This was especially true of large urban centers in the North. A number of inventions helped to contribute to this trend. **Samuel B. Morse's telegraph** and **Alexander Graham Bell's** (1847 – 1922) **telephone** made it possible for individuals and businesses to communicate much more easily and on a broader scale than ever before. In addition, **Thomas Edison's** (1847 – 1931) **light bulb** had great impact because it enabled factory work to continue after sunset. As a result, people worked longer hours and industries produced more goods. As cities came to depend on the construction of taller buildings to accommodate the growth in business and populations, **elevators** proved to be valuable innovations as well. Meanwhile, inventions like the **typewriter** greatly increased the rate at which letters and documents could be written and exchanged.





## MIGRATION TO THE CITIES AND IMMIGRATION TO THE UNITED STATES

As industrialization continued in the US, many people left their farms and moved to the cities where they could earn higher wages. Rising farm costs and declining prices for agricultural products, meant that fewer individuals could make a living by farming. In addition, the second half of the 19th century also saw a dramatic increase in immigration to the United States. From the potato famine in Ireland in the 1840s, to the displacement of workers caused by industrialization in Europe, more and more foreign peoples found reason to come to the US. The greatest numbers came from Europe and settled in the Northeast. To handle the large numbers of people arriving



Immigrants Arrive at Ellis Island

in the country, the federal government opened **Ellis Island** in New York Harbor in 1892. Located near the Statue of Liberty, it became a well known reception center for immigrants arriving by ship. Many of these new arrivals experienced a great deal of **culture shock** when they first reached the United States. They were accustomed to living among others solely like themselves, who shared the same culture, traditions and backgrounds. Many of them came from relatively small towns and villages in their home countries. Now, they suddenly found themselves in a foreign land surrounded by many different types of people in large cities. The arrival of immigrants, combined with the numbers of US citizens migrating from rural areas, caused the nation's urban areas to grow dramatically during the late 1800s.

As more and more people immigrated to the US, the nation's population became very diverse. This led to the coinage of the phrase, "**melting pot**." In a melting pot, people mix different ingredients together as they cook and prepare an appetizing final product. In the same way, many envisioned the United States as a place where people of all backgrounds could come and be assimilated into American society. In reality, however, most immigrants did not want to fully assimilate. They wanted to maintain many of their traditional ways. The nation, particularly the large cities, began to experience a great deal of **cultural pluralism** (presence of many different cultures within one society).

### PROBLEMS AND CONCERNS

While immigration did have positive effects, such as greater diversity and providing much needed labor for the nation's factories, it also presented problems. Many US citizens looked on immigrants negatively. They felt that immigrants took jobs away from natural born citizens, and they often mistrusted foreigners whose cultural ways they could not understand. They also tended to be suspicious of the **ethnic ghettos** within the inner cities. In these ghettos, immigrants from a certain region or country tended to live together due to their common culture, language, and heritage. Many natives simply did not appreciate, nor did they want, the ethnic and cultural diversity that immigrants brought to society. They were concerned that cultural diversity promoted immigrants' desire to cling to their native language and practices. Many natives saw this as a sign of disloyalty to the United States. Religious differences were also a source of tension. Most US citizens were Protestants, while many of the arriving immigrants were Catholics. As a result, an immigrant's religious practices often conflicted with those of natural born citizens. Even among the immigrants themselves, problems existed. As people from different nations and ethnic groups began to live in ghettos that were in close proximity to one another, conflicts arose. As a result, people from one nation or ethnic group developed rivalries with those of another.



## NATIVISM AND RESTRICTIONS ON IMMIGRATION



As feelings of **nativism** (opposing further immigration) grew, anti-immigrant groups like the **Know-Nothings** began to form. Nativism often meant that foreign immigrants were the victims of violence and discrimination. Eventually, the government reacted to nativist concerns by passing legislation to restrict immigration to the United States. One such law was the **Chinese Exclusion Act** of 1882. Despite the fact that Chinese immigrants had played a major role in the construction of the nation's railroads and contributed to the country's west coast economy, this act prohibited Chinese immigrants from legally coming to the US and was not repealed until 1943.

## LIVING AND WORKING CONDITIONS AMONG IMMIGRANTS

Although most immigrants were thankful to reach the US, they often encountered difficult living and working conditions once they arrived. Many immigrants lived in small, overcrowded apartments called **tenements**. Large families (or even multiple families) often lived in one room apartments that were unsanitary and unsafe. In addition, immigrants often worked very long hours under hazardous conditions for very low wages. Often they worked under these conditions in factories. At times, however, they worked in **sweatshops**. Since factories were sometimes not big enough to house all the work necessary for an industry, managers and factory owners often contracted out work to others who were then paid based on production. These "sub-contractors" would then set up makeshift factories in small apartments or unused buildings. Often poorly lit, poorly ventilated, and unsafe, these sweatshops would then hire poor workers (often immigrants) to work long hours for little pay.

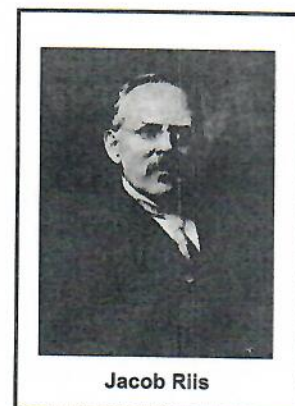


Immigrant Workers

## REFORMERS AND THE SOCIAL GOSPEL

The plight of the immigrant inspired a number of reformers determined to help. Among them was **Jacob Riis** (1849 – 1914). Riis himself immigrated from Denmark in 1870. In books like *How the Other Half Lives*, Riis exposed the terrible living and working conditions faced by immigrants. As a result of his efforts, New York passed its first meaningful laws aimed at improving tenements.

Another activist was **Jane Addams** (1860 – 1935). Addams was part of a movement known as the **Social Gospel**. This was a movement comprised of people who believed that their Christian faith required them to take an active role in social issues of the day. Referred to by many as "The Mother of Social Work," Addams played an important role by opening and running **Hull House**. Hull House was a **settlement house** in Chicago. Settlement houses were houses established in poor neighborhoods where social activists would live and from which they would offer assistance to immigrants and underprivileged citizens. By 1910, there were more than 400 settlement houses in the United States.



Jacob Riis



## URBAN LIFE IN THE AGE OF INDUSTRIALIZATION

As the urban population grew and transformed, urban life transformed with it. Transportation evolved as **electric trolleys** came into being. Trolleys (soon followed by subways and trains) allowed people to live outside the inner city while still working and pursuing leisure activities within it. As a result, the nation began to see the development of its first suburbs. Increased divisions in economic classes developed as those of the middle and upper classes moved further out and left the inner city to the poorer classes and immigrants.

On the farm, people tended to work by production. In other words, you worked until the work was done. Leisure time was limited and reserved for only certain celebrations and seasons. With industrialization and the growth of urbanization, however, factory workers tended to work by the clock. This meant that once the work hours ended, people looked for ways to amuse themselves. To meet this need, new means of leisure and entertainment began to grow in the cities. Among men, **saloons** became popular places to drink, socialize, forge bonds and engage in politics. Women enjoyed **dance halls** and **cabarets** where they could watch musical shows and try the latest dances.



Saloon

For families, there were **amusement parks** and **vaudeville shows** (inexpensive variety shows). It was during this time that the **moving picture industry** was born and **spectator sports** (boxing, horse racing, and especially baseball) became popular. The period also saw a number of city parks come into being. Most notable was New York's Central Park, which was designed by **Frederick Olmstead** (1822 – 1903) in 1858 and officially completed in 1873. Olmstead became the first person to whom the term, *landscape architect*, was ever applied. He later went on to design park systems in other large US cities.

### Practice 1: Industrialization, Immigration, and Urban Life

1. How did the inventions of Morse, Bell, and Edison contribute to industrialization?
2. Which of the following factors led to rapid population growth in urbanized areas?
  - A. Increased profits by farmers led many to seek jobs in urban areas.
  - B. The arrival of immigrants and people leaving rural areas for the cities.
  - C. After the Civil War, northern cities strongly encouraged freed slaves to move north.
  - D. Nativists encouraged immigration which increased the population quickly.
3. Why did many US citizens resent immigrants and want to restrict immigration?
  - A. They feared that immigrants would not be willing to work hard and would contribute to unemployment.
  - B. They believed that most immigrants migrated to the South and would contribute to the persecution of African-Americans.
  - C. They believed immigrants would take their jobs and did not trust their strange customs.
  - D. Most US citizens were Catholics and were suspicious of the Protestant beliefs immigrants brought with them.
4. What are some ways industrialization and rapid population growth impacted urban life in the late 19th century?

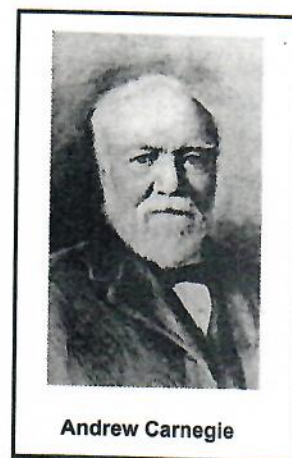


## II. THE RISE OF BIG BUSINESS

With industrialization came new opportunities and chances to make money. It was during this period that a handful of Americans became extremely wealthy, forever changing US business and the role of government in the nation's economy.

### GIANTS OF EARLY U.S. INDUSTRIALIZATION

In the late 1850s, a man named Sir Henry Bessemer developed a new method for making steel known as the *Bessemer process*. Using this process, manufacturers could make steel much quicker and more efficiently. Increased production of steel meant faster expansion of railroads and more construction of buildings. Thus, steel became very important to the nation's economy. The man who truly came to dominate this industry was **Andrew Carnegie** (1835 – 1919). Carnegie's company controlled the steel industry through a business practice known as **vertical integration**. This is a form of business strategy, in which one entity owns not only the company that produces the finished product, but also the companies that provide the materials necessary for production. In Carnegie's case, he owned not only the steel mills, but the iron ore and coal mines as well. He also owned the railroads and ships that transported the needed coal and iron ore. In this way, Carnegie was able to form a **monopoly** (exclusive control over the supply of a particular product with no competition). Carnegie would go on to give much of his wealth to public causes. Citing what he referred to as the **Gospel of Wealth**, Carnegie believed that it was the responsibility of the wealthy to make sure their money was put to good use helping others, rather than being spent on frivolous pursuits.



Andrew Carnegie

Another important industry was oil. In 1859, a conductor of the New Haven railroad named **Edwin L. Drake** defied critics and successfully drilled for oil in western Pennsylvania. In the years that followed, his discovery led to another man, **John D. Rockefeller** (1839 – 1937), becoming one of the nation's richest and most powerful businessmen. Rockefeller's company, **Standard Oil**, was the nation's first **trust**. A trust is a business arrangement under which a number of companies unite into one system. In effect, trusts serve to destroy competition and create monopolies. Through the trust, Rockefeller was able to dictate prices, eliminate competition, and control the US oil industry. Much of Rockefeller's success was due to the fact that he, too, masterfully used the practice of vertical integration to his advantage. Determined to "pay nobody a profit," Rockefeller's company made its own barrels, cans, and whatever else it needed.

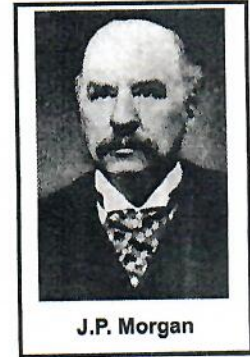


John D. Rockefeller

**Cornelius Vanderbilt** (1794 – 1877) had great impact in the railroad industry. In 1869, his New York Central railroad was extended to reach Chicago, Illinois. Travelers could go from New York to Chicago without having to transfer trains multiple times. This greatly helped the railroad industry by making travel faster and much easier for passengers.



With the expansion of US business came a new kind of business leader—the **finance capitalist**. These were bankers who exerted economic influence through companies' stocks and bonds. The most powerful and influential of the early finance capitalists was **J.P. Morgan** (1837 – 1913). Morgan eventually exercised control over banks, insurance companies, and various stock-market operations. By 1913, Morgan and his associates had assets of over \$22 billion! The amount was equal to three times the estimated value of all the real estate in New York City at the time. Morgan was so rich that he eventually bought out Carnegie's steel company to form a new company—**US Steel**. The price he paid made Carnegie the richest man in the world.



J.P. Morgan

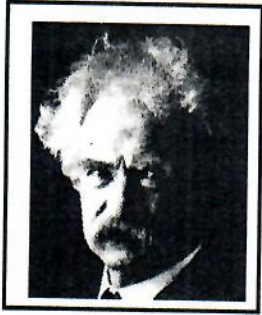
After Thomas Edison invented the light bulb in 1896, **George Westinghouse** (1846 – 1914) made even more significant strides in the production of electricity. As founder of the **Westinghouse Electric Company**, he invented a transformer that enabled electricity to be transmitted as alternating currents to points far away, thereby increasing the ways that electrical power could be used.

It was the era of big business, as industrial leaders established power through monopolies, trusts, and **interlocking directorates**. These directorates allowed directors of one company to serve as directors for other companies also. As a result, they could control entire industries, thereby increasing their economic gains and limiting competition. Through innovation, ambition, and at times ruthlessness, these men and others became incredibly rich during the age of industrialization.

## SOCIAL DARWINISM AND THE GILDED AGE

In the mid-1800s, an English philosopher and political theorist named **Herbert Spencer** introduced a concept which came to be known as **Social Darwinism**. Spencer believed that life was a battle for “survival of the fittest.” Many business leaders were drawn to this philosophy and based their beliefs in **laissez-faire capitalism** (the belief that the government should not interfere with the market or regulate business) on Social Darwinism. Borrowing from Charles Darwin's observations about animals in the wild, as well as the teachings of Spencer, these businessmen believed that business was also a battle for survival and that it was best for the economy if only those industries and industrialists who were “the strongest” survived. Therefore, they believed that the natural economic laws of supply and demand should dictate business practices without the “unnatural” disturbance of government interference. Many in society had nothing but the greatest admiration for these men and bought into their view of business. This was in part due to the popular idea that just about anyone, no matter how poor, could “pull themselves up by their bootstraps” and become rich. Such ideas were even echoed in the children's books of **Horatio Alger** (1832 – 1899). Alger's characters went from poverty to wealth through hard work and diligence, rather than because of an inherited social status.





Mark Twain

However, not everyone agreed. As businesses grew and business leaders acquired more economic control, concerns began to grow as well. Some saw the wealth enjoyed by the few as being at the expense of the many who remained in poverty. They felt that while business leaders grew rich, their laborers were left with harsh working conditions and inadequate pay. The period from 1877 until the early 1900s came to be called the **Gilded Age**. The phrase comes from writer **Mark Twain**, and refers to a time in which it appeared that a thin layer of prosperity was covering the poverty and corruption that existed in much of society.

### Practice 2: The Rise of Big Business

1. How did monopolies and trusts enable businessmen like Carnegie and Rockefeller to become among the richest and most powerful men in the world?
  - A. They restricted immigration, thereby limiting the number of industrialists who could compete with them.
  - B. They eliminated competition and allowed certain businessmen to control entire industries.
  - C. They loaned large amounts of money to businessmen, thereby enabling them to invest in new industries.
  - D. They paid large amounts of interest to finance capitalists in exchange for business loans.
2. What is "Social Darwinism" and how did leaders of big business use it to justify their belief in laissez-faire economics?
3. Why did some refer to the era of big business as the "Gilded Age?"
  - A. They believed it was an age in which a thin layer of wealth controlled by the few covered over the poverty and hardship experienced by the masses.
  - B. They believed that it was a time of prosperity in which the US became the world's foremost industrialized nation.
  - C. They believed that it was a time in which immigration was enriching US society by providing cultural diversity.
  - D. They believed it was a time when immigration was hurting US society by stealing jobs from US citizens.



### III. WORKERS AND THE LABOR UNIONS

#### CONDITIONS OF THE WORKER

As the US approached the 20th century, laborers in the big cities often faced difficult working conditions. The replacement of specialized craftsmen with machines meant that factory work was often monotonous and left employees feeling very little sense of pride. Also, work hours were long, wages were low and factory conditions were often very dangerous. Most feared losing their job in a day and age when Social Security and unemployment benefits did not exist. **Child labor** was also very common. In order for families to survive, children—sometimes as young as five years old—often had to work rather than go to school. Not only did these children miss out on having a real childhood, but without an education they also found themselves with little hope of ever escaping poverty.



Child Labor

#### THE UNIONS

It was out of these kinds of conditions that **labor unions** arose. Unions are organizations of workers formed to protect the interests of its members. Unions formed as either craft unions or trade unions. **Craft unions** were unions open to skilled workers who practiced a specific craft, while **trade unions** tended to be open to less skilled workers. During this period, a number of notable unions and union leaders came into being.

**THE KNIGHTS OF LABOR:** Formed in 1869, the Knights hoped to organize all working men and women into a single union. This union included factory workers, farmers, shopkeepers, and even office workers. It also recruited and included African-Americans. The Knights pursued social reforms such as equal pay for equal work, the eight hour workday, and an end to child labor. After initial success, a series of failed strikes led to the group's decline and eventual disappearance in the 1890s.

**THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR (AFL):** The American Federation of Labor was a craft union led by **Samuel Gompers** (1850 – 1924) that formed in 1886. It focused on the issues of wages, working hours and working conditions. Whereas the Knights of Labor had preferred to rely on political activity and education, the AFL used the economic pressures of **strikes** (refusal of employees to work until employers meet certain demands) and **boycotts** (refusal to buy or pay for certain products or services in the hopes of forcing producers to change their policies or actions). The AFL also believed in **collective bargaining** and **mediation**. Collective bargaining is a process through which employees **negotiate** as a united group rather than individuals, thereby increasing their bargaining power. By comparison, mediation is when a neutral third party (in some cases the government) gets involved to help negotiate a settlement that is acceptable to both sides. Unions also called on employers to agree to **arbitration** as well. Arbitration is a form of mediation in which the mediating third party is granted authority to pronounce a finding that both sides consider binding in order to end further dispute about a labor matter. To increase their ability to negotiate with business owners, the AFL pressed for a “**closed shop**” workplace in which employers could hire only union members. “Closed shops” forced employers to deal with the union because they could not look elsewhere for workers.



Samuel Gompers



One of the most influential union leaders in history was **Eugene Debs** (1855 – 1926). Debs organized the American Railway Union in 1893, and went on to lead the famed Pullman Strike of 1894. He eventually ran for president several times as leader of the American Socialist Party.



Eugene Debs

## EMPLOYER RESPONSE TO UNIONS

Employers of the late 19th century hated the unions. For this reason, many of them forced employees to sign **yellow-dog contracts**, which forbade workers from even joining. Others placed union workers on **blacklists** (lists of workers who employers would refuse to hire). At times, they would also institute **lockouts**. Lockouts were a method by which employers would not allow employees to return to work. When strikes occurred, employers often hired **scabs** (replacement workers) to take over the jobs left vacated. As time went on, employers and business leaders came to realize that they had the support of the government when it came to breaking strikes. Thus, it became common for employers to ask for **injunctions**. These were court orders that forbade strikes because they violated the law or threatened public interests. When all else failed, some employers used violence and intimidation to deal with labor unrest.

## STRIKES AND CONFRONTATIONS

The first major case of nationwide labor unrest occurred in 1877. Upset by a proposed wage cut, railway workers responded with violence throughout the Midwest and eastern United States. Alarmed by the violence and concerned about the disruption to the nation's railways, President Rutherford B. Hayes sent in federal troops on two separate occasions to put down the protest. Known as the "**Great Strike**", it showed employers that they could appeal to the federal government for help in dealing with striking workers.



Labor strike

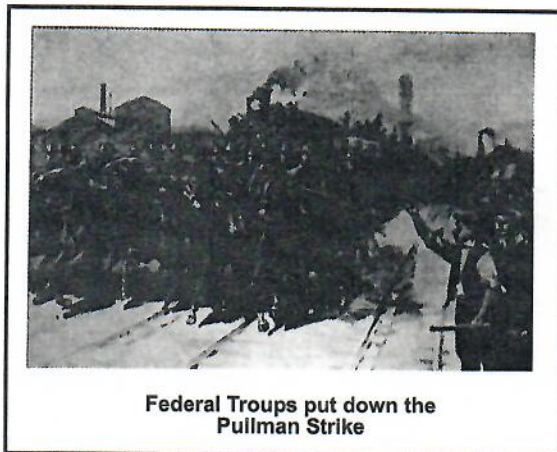
In May of 1886, workers mounted a national demonstration in support of an eight-hour workday. On May 4, many of them held a rally at Chicago's Haymarket Square. During the rally, a group of radicals exploded a bomb that killed seven police officers. A riot immediately broke out with gunfire that killed both police and striking workers. The **Haymarket Riot** turned public opinion against the unions as many in the nation began to identify strikes with anarchy and violence.

The **Homestead Strike** broke out among steel workers in 1892 at the Carnegie Steel plant in Homestead, Pennsylvania. While Carnegie was in Europe, his partner, Henry Frick, hired a private police force known as the **Pinkertons** to put down the strike. Strikers and Pinkertons eventually engaged in a shoot out that left several people dead or wounded. Once again, the public perceived the striking workers as the instigators of the violence, and the union had no choice but to call off the strike.



## • • • • • Becoming an Industrial Society

Like the first of the great strikes, the last involved the railroad industry. In 1894, a delegation of employees went to railroad car industrialist, George Pullman, to protest the laying off of workers. Pullman responded by firing three of the labor representatives, leading the local union to go on strike. Pullman then closed the plant rather than negotiating with union leaders. Led by Eugene Debs, the American Railway Union called for a boycott of Pullman cars nationwide. By June, roughly 120,000 workers had rallied to the strike. The federal government responded with a court injunction against the union, and President Cleveland sent in federal troops to make sure that it was enforced. Days later the strike was over. The **Pullman Strike** established a precedence for factory owners appealing to the courts to end strikes.



### Practice 3: Workers and the Labor Unions

1. Which of the following did NOT contribute to the rise of unions?
  - A. increased immigration to the urban centers of the Northeast
  - B. child labor
  - C. dangerous conditions in factories
  - D. government policies giving more power to workers
2. How did the public often perceive unions as the result of events like the Haymarket Riot and the Homestead Strike?
  - A. The unions were viewed as champions of the common man.
  - B. The unions were viewed as persecuted and victims of harsh treatment by employers.
  - C. The unions were viewed as promoting violence and anarchy.
  - D. The unions were viewed as being treated unfairly by the government.
3. In what ways did the federal government and the courts play a role in labor disputes?

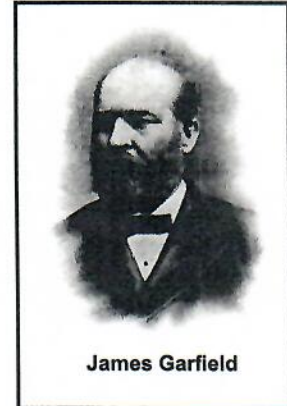


## IV. THE ROLE OF GOVERNMENT IN ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL AFFAIRS

### CORRUPTION IN GOVERNMENT

#### THE SPOILS SYSTEM AND THE PENDLETON ACT

Following the death of Abraham Lincoln, corruption began to become more prevalent in the federal government. During the Grant administration, public officials became involved in scandals such as the **Whiskey Ring** (which involved internal revenue collectors) and the **Credit Mobilier Scandal** (involving government officials and stockholders in the Union Pacific railroad). Many blamed the spoils system, which rewarded political supporters with government positions. Then, in 1881, a man who was upset over not receiving the political position he wanted assassinated President James Garfield. Garfield's death led to passage of the **Pendleton Act**. This act established a Civil Service Commission that required applicants to pass a civil service exam prior to being considered for any official position. The Pendleton Act served to ensure that future appointments would be based on an individual's merit, rather than simply his/her political loyalties.

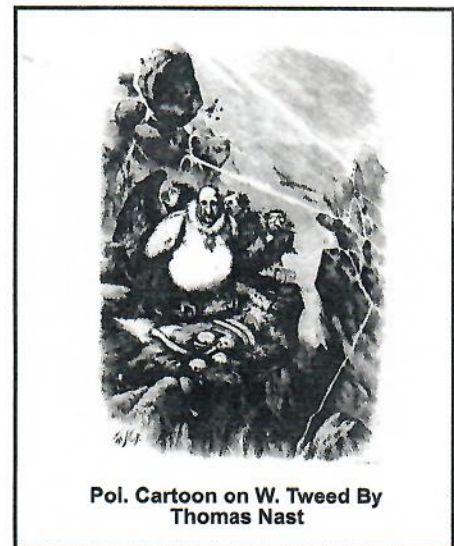


James Garfield

#### POLITICAL MACHINES

Corruption was common in local and state governments as well. In big cities like New York, the nation saw the rise of political machines. The fast growth of the urban population meant that government had to improve police and fire departments, transportation systems, public services, sewage systems, etc. This meant more public money and a greater role for government. It also gave the government more power and made the battle for government positions more intense. The **political machine** was an unofficial entity meant to keep a certain party or group in power. It was led by a *boss*, who may or may not hold a political office himself. During this period, **graft** (the use of one's political position or job to gain wealth) became a common practice.

Perhaps the most notorious political boss was New York City's **Boss William Tweed** (1823 – 1878). Tweed ran **Tammany Hall**, a political club that controlled the city's Democratic party. Over time, Tweed stole over 100 million dollars from the city treasury. Eventually, the political cartoons of **Thomas Nast** (1840 – 1902) helped to expose Tweed and bring him down. On one occasion, Tweed was quoted as ranting about Nast, "Stop those damned pictures! I don't care what the papers say about me; my constituents can't read. But damn it, they can see pictures!" Despite Tweed's fall from power, Tammany Hall continued to dominate New York City politics well into the 20th century.



Pol. Cartoon on W. Tweed By Thomas Nast



## GOVERNMENT REGULATION

Scandals were a major issue in the Presidential campaign of 1884. The Republican candidate that year, James Blaine, was believed by many to be a corrupt politician. Although the Democratic candidate, Grover Cleveland, had fathered a child out of wedlock (a tremendous scandal in those days), the fact that he admitted it made him seem the more trustworthy of the two. As a result, a group of reform Republicans switched sides and voted for Cleveland. These Republicans came to be called **Mugwumps**, and their support helped Cleveland win the election. Under Cleveland, the government began taking steps to regulate business. In 1887, he signed the **Interstate Commerce Act**, which created the Interstate Commerce Commission and regulated railroad rates for trains traveling between states. In 1890, during the presidency of Benjamin Harrison, Congress passed the **Sherman Antitrust Act**. This law was meant to ensure competition by making monopolies illegal. In 1895, during his second term (Grover Cleveland is the only US president in history to serve two terms that were non-consecutive), Cleveland enacted the Sherman Antitrust Act in an attempt to prevent the EC Knight Company from maintaining a monopoly in the manufacture of sugar. The Supreme Court heard the case and in an 8 – 1 decision ruled that, while the government did have the authority to break up monopolies when it came to the distribution of a product, it could not use the Sherman Antitrust Act to break up monopolies in *manufacturing*. The Court's ruling in *United States v. EC Knight Co* was a major victory for business and a setback in the battle against monopolies.



Grover Cleveland

## THE POPULIST RESPONSE TO CORRUPTION

The corruption that many associated with big business and industrialization helped fuel the political movement known as **Populism**. Among other things, the Populist called for a number of political reforms:

- 1) **SECRET BALLOT**: Also called an **Australian ballot** because the practice had originated in Australia in 1856, a secret ballot simply meant that individuals' votes would be cast in secret.
- 2) **REFERENDUM**: The Populist also wanted a popular **referendum**, by which the president would be elected by popular vote rather than by the Electoral College. In addition, Populists called for the direct election of US Senators by the people instead of by state legislatures. Thus, they believed elections would finally be decided by the will of the people, rather than by political deals and favors.
- 3) **RECALL**: The power of the **recall** meant that the people would have the power to remove corrupt officials from office before their term had expired.
- 4) **INITIATIVE**: The power of the **initiative** would mean that people could force a vote on an issue provided they could petition enough signatures from registered voters. In this way, the people would have a voice in the political agenda addressed by government officials.

Although Populism faded as a political movement after the election of 1896, the Populists helped create momentum for changes in government and its role in regulating business. Many of its goals would eventually become reality as a result of the Progressive Movement of the early 1900's.



### Practice 4: The Role of Government in Economic and Political Affairs

1. Which of the following statements MOST accurately describes William Tweed?
  - A. His political cartoons helped expose corruption in New York City and bring down one of the nation's most notorious political bosses.
  - B. The fact that he was seen as corrupt led the Mugwumps to abandon him to support his political opponent in 1884.
  - C. He was a corrupt political boss who dominated New York City politics for a time.
  - D. His assassination ultimately led to reforms in US government.
  
2. How did the Interstate Commerce Act and the Sherman Antitrust Act serve to regulate business?

## CHAPTER 5 REVIEW



### A. Key Terms and People

Samuel F.B. Morse  
 Alexander Graham Bell  
 telegraph and telephone  
 Thomas Edison  
 light bulb  
 elevator  
 typewriter  
 Ellis Island  
 culture shock  
 "melting pot"  
 cultural pluralism  
 ethnic ghettos  
 nativism  
 Know Nothings  
 Chinese Exclusion Act  
 tenements  
 sweatshops  
 Jacob Riis  
 Jane Addams  
 Social Gospel  
 Hull House  
 settlement house  
 electric trolleys  
 saloons  
 dance halls and cabarets

Bessemer process  
 Andrew Carnegie  
 vertical integration  
 monopoly  
 Gospel of Wealth  
 Edwin L. Drake  
 John D. Rockefeller  
 Standard Oil  
 trust  
 Cornelius Vanderbilt  
 J.P. Morgan  
 US Steel  
 George Westinghouse  
 interlocking directorates  
 Herbert Spencer  
 Social Darwinism  
 laissez-faire capitalism  
 Social Darwinism  
 Horatio Alger  
 Gilded Age  
 child labor  
 labor unions  
 craft union  
 trade union  
 Knights of Labor

arbitration  
 closed shop  
 Eugene Debs  
 yellow-dog contract  
 blacklist  
 lockouts  
 scabs  
 injunction  
 Great Strike  
 Haymarket Riot  
 Homestead Strike  
 Pinkertons  
 Pullman Strike  
 Whiskey Ring  
 Credit Mobilier Scandal  
 Pendleton Act  
 political machine  
 graft  
 Boss William Tweed  
 Tammany Hall  
 Thomas Nast  
 Mugwumps  
 Interstate Commerce Act  
 Sherman Antitrust Act  
*United States v. EC Knight Co.*



amusement parks	American Federation of Labor (AFL)	Populism
vaudeville shows	Samuel Gompers	secret (Australian) ballot
moving picture industry	strikes	referendum
spectator sports	boycotts	recall
Frederick Olmstead	collective bargaining	initiative
	mediation	negotiate

## B. Multiple Choice

1. What did the inventions of Samuel F.B. Morse and Alexander Graham Bell have in common?
  - A. They both allowed factories to stay open after sunset, thereby producing more goods for consumers.
  - B. They both were among the first great inventions of the 20th century.
  - C. They both enabled individuals and businesses to communicate on a broader scale.
  - D. They both helped to make J.P. Morgan one of the richest men in US history.
2. Which of the following scenarios is the BEST example of cultural pluralism?
  - A. Italian immigrants arrive in the US and immediately begin to learn English so that they can assimilate to US society.
  - B. Polish immigrants stay within their own ethnic ghetto because they prefer to be with people who speak the same language and practice the same customs as themselves.
  - C. An African-American woman says hello to her white friend in front of a Muslim mosque, while on her way to church.
  - D. A Hispanic man leaves his homeland to come to the United States.
3. Which of the following is the BEST example of what is meant by “melting pot?”
  - A. A Chinese immigrant learns English, adopts western styles of dress, and moves to the suburbs.
  - B. An Italian immigrant learns English in order to do well in US culture, lives in an ethnic ghetto, and continues to practice many of the old ways and customs of her home country.
  - C. A Mexican immigrant waves a Mexican flag and marches as part of a protest demanding equal rights for foreign immigrants.
  - D. An African-American woman born in the US begins to dress in traditional African attire and practice African customs after learning more about her heritage.



4. Someone who supports nativism would most likely agree with which one of the following statements?
- "The Chinese Exclusion Act is wrong! Chinese immigrants helped build the railroads of the West. To now limit their immigration to this nation is a crime... a moral crime!"*
  - "The 'Know Nothings' are a threat to our city. We must do all in our power to discover who is part of this organization so that they can be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law."*
  - "Keep the foreigners out! We are losing our American way of life to these blasted immigrants. They come here with their funny language and their godless religion. Why, my dog is more American than they'll ever be."*
  - "The Chinese Exclusion Act is good for our country. The only people who should be coming to this country should be people who look like us — Europeans. After all, our great, great grandfathers and great, great grandmothers were Europeans also."*
5. Which of the following most accurately describes the plight of immigrant factory workers in the late 19th century?
- They often lived in overcrowded apartments, worked long hours and labored in dangerous working conditions.
  - They slowly migrated out of ethnic ghettos and into the suburbs as the 20th century grew closer.
  - They tended to drive native born citizens out of the inner city, thereby greatly reducing the US urban population in the late 1800s.
  - Since many of them came from Europe, they tended to be Protestants who were persecuted for their beliefs once they arrived in the US.
6. Saloons, dance halls, amusement parks, and spectator sports are all examples of what?
- industries dominated by immigrants in the late 1800s
  - aspects of urban life during the age of industrialization
  - methods of entertainment common in rural areas at the turn of the century
  - places and events where men tended to gather to talk politics and build bonds
7. *"He was an incredible business man and a generous humanitarian. Why, I bet he gave to those in need almost as much money as he made. Meanwhile, he made the steel industry what it is today. When he sold his business to old Morgan, it made him the richest man in the world."*

Who is the above statement referring to?

- |                         |                        |
|-------------------------|------------------------|
| A. Cornelius Vanderbilt | C. John D. Rockefeller |
| B. Andrew Carnegie      | D. Tammany Hall        |
8. It was the nation's first trust.
- |   |                                       |
|---|---------------------------------------|
| A. Vanderbilt's New York Central Railroad | C. E.C. Knight's sugar plantation     |
| B. J.P. Morgan's bank                     | D. John D. Rockefeller's Standard Oil |
9. Which of the following authors called attention to the harsh living conditions of immigrants in the late 1800s?
- |                  |                |
|------------------|----------------|
| A. Mark Twain    | C. Jane Addams |
| B. Horatio Alger | D. Jacob Riis  |



