

THE "GILDED AGE" 1865-EARLY 1900s

- The nickname of the big business era after the Civil War
- The Era of Industrialization and Big Business
- The time of the monopolies, immigration, and urbanization

REASONS FOR INDUSTRIALIZATION IN THE NORTH AFTER THE CIVIL WAR

- INVESTMENT CAPITAL- money for investing in business
- Many railroads, especially the transcontinental railroad
- Available water power for factory machines

TRANSCONTINENTAL RAILROAD

- Connected the east to the west: the Central Pacific RR connected with the Union Pacific RR
- A six month journey across the country is cut to six days
- The Pacific Railway Act gave land grants to railroad companies to build it
- Many Chinese immigrants built it and it helped to settle the Great Plains

TENEMENTS

- Crowded city apartments, usually with immigrants
- Immigrants caused the Lower East Side (NYC) to be the most densely packed place on earth

NATIVISM

- Hate towards immigrants, especially Jews, Catholics, and Asians
- Nativists thought immigrants took jobs from American born natives
- Led to discrimination: "Irish need not apply"
- Nativist groups included the "Know Nothing" Party and the KKK
- Most factory business leaders were NOT nativist: they needed immigrants for factory labor

ASSIMILATION THEORY OF IMMIGRATION

- Immigrants adapting to the American culture and learning English

PLURALISM THEORY OF IMMIGRATION

- "Salad Bowl Theory"- Immigrants keep their own culture and live side-by-side with other cultures

MELTING POT THEORY OF IMMIGRATION

- America is a mix of cultures and our country benefits from the different ideas

PROTECTIVE TARIFFS

- Business leaders supported a tax on imports which would help American products cost less than foreign imports

URBANIZATION, INDUSTRIALIZATION, AND IMMIGRATION

- Big businesses needed immigrants to move to the US and they moved to northern cities

CHINESE EXCLUSION ACT (1882) AND GENTLEMEN'S AGREEMENT WITH JAPAN (1907)

- Nativist policies that almost completely stopped Chinese immigration and Japanese immigration

OLD IMMIGRATION VS. NEW IMMIGRATION

- Big business leaders supported open immigration with no restrictions because they needed a supply of workers for the factories
- Push/Pull Reasons for Immigration: great potato famine; pogroms
- **OLD** (Before Civil War) – Northern & Western Europe: Irish and German

- **NEW** (After 1890) – Southern & Eastern Europe: Italian, Russian, Polish, Jewish; plus Japanese & Chinese
- Ellis Island & Angel Island
- New immigrants were culturally different and lived in urban areas

MUCKRAKERS

- They exposed the abuses of industrialization, urbanization, and immigration

JACOB RIIS - MUCKRAKER

- Used the new explosive camera flash technology
- Exposed the tenements with his pictures in the book *How the Other Half Lives*
- Shocked the public and led to new laws - New York Tenement Reform Law
- Jane Addams Established Hull House

UPTON SINCLAIR – MUCKRAKER

- The book was about the tough life of working immigrants, but it exposed the unhealthy meat industry
- Sinclair worked seven weeks undercover and discovered moldy meat, rats, rat poison, and rat crap in the production of meat
- *The Jungle* led to the Meat Inspection Act and the Pure Food and Drug Act
- Created the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to inspect food and food production

LINCOLN STEFFENS – MUCKRAKER

- Exposed the corruption of the political machines in the cities in his book *The Shame of the Cities*
- Led to progressive voting reform, which takes power away from corrupt political machines

IDA TARBELL – MUCKRAKER

- Exposed Rockefeller's oil monopoly and his cut-throat business tactics
- *History of the Standard Oil Company*
- After this the government broke up Standard Oil into 34 companies to restore competition

TRIANGLE SHIRTWAIST FACTORY FIRE 1911

- A garment factory fire in New York City where mostly immigrant teenagers were employed
- Doors had been locked to keep out union organizers
- 146 workers died and many jumped to their deaths
- Led to new fire code laws – doors have to open out, sprinklers, and multiple exits

SHERMAN ANTI-TRUST ACT AND THE CLAYTON ANTI-TRUST ACT

- Both broke up monopolies and trusts to help smaller businesses compete

PRESIDENT TEDDY ROOSEVELT - PROGRESSIVE

- Trust Buster – broke up the bad trusts, kept the good
- Supported the workers in the coal mine strike
- Used the Interstate Commerce Act against the railroads
- Got Congress to pass Meat Inspection Act and Pure Food and Drug Act because of *The Jungle*
- Conservation – saved land in the west by setting up national forests and parks
- "Square Deal"- Progressive ideas

JANE ADDAMS' HULL HOUSE

- Settlement house in Chicago to help poor immigrant children and women

INTERSTATE COMMERCE ACT (1887)

- This act regulated railroad prices to stop monopolies from abusing farmers
- Railroads had to ask permission from the government to raise shipping rates
- Was not enforced until TR became president

PROGRESSIVE ERA

- The time period after industrialization when things improved because of REFORMS
- Reforms- Improved working conditions, improved city conditions, less corruption, less power to big businesses

- Helps to lower the gap between the rich and poor – “the unequal distribution of wealth”

PROGRESSIVE VOTING REFORM: INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM

- These give the people the opportunity to try to get their own laws voted on by the people to get more direct democracy

PROGRESSIVE VOTING REFORM: RECALL

- The people get the power to vote against a politician who has abused his power and remove him from office which gives people more direct democracy

PROGRESSIVE VOTING REFORM: 17TH AMENDMENT

- The direct election of Senators – instead of each state legislature picking the two Senators they are now voted on by the people of the state which gives people more direct democracy

TEMPERANCE MOVEMENT: 18TH AMENDMENT (1919)

- Prohibition of alcohol

PROGRESSIVE VOTING REFORM: 19TH AMENDMENT (1920)

- Women's Suffrage