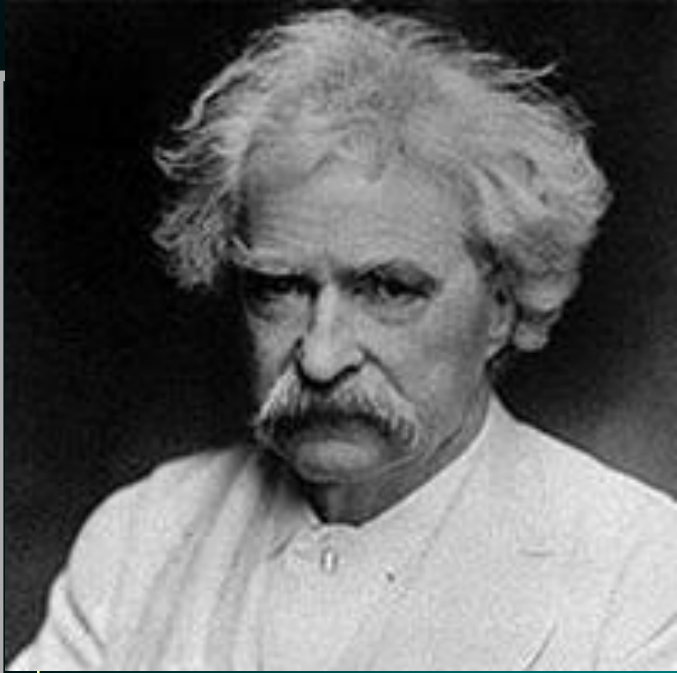
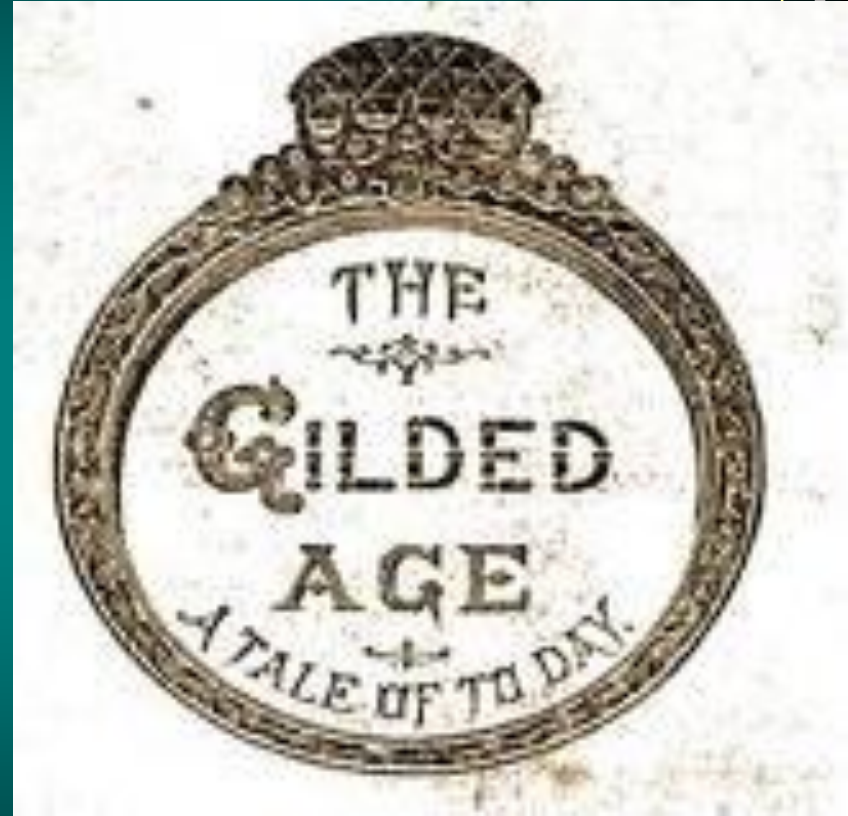


# Why is the late 19<sup>th</sup> Century called the Gilded Age? (1865 – 1900)

**DO NOW**: The 19th Century author Mark Twain created the term “Gilded Age” for the period 1865-1900. What do you think he meant by this (feel free to Google the definition of Gilded)?



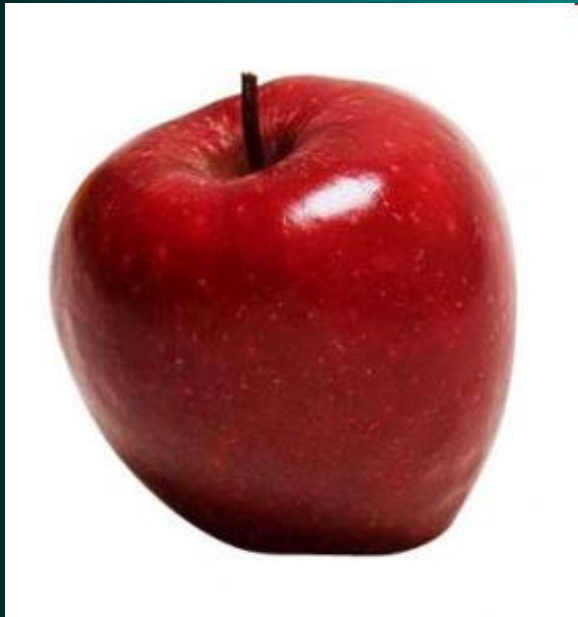
“Gilded Age” term created by famous American author **Mark Twain**



To “gild” something is to lay a thin layer of gold over some rougher/cheaper base material

# “Gilded Age” – 1865-1900

- Post Civil War America





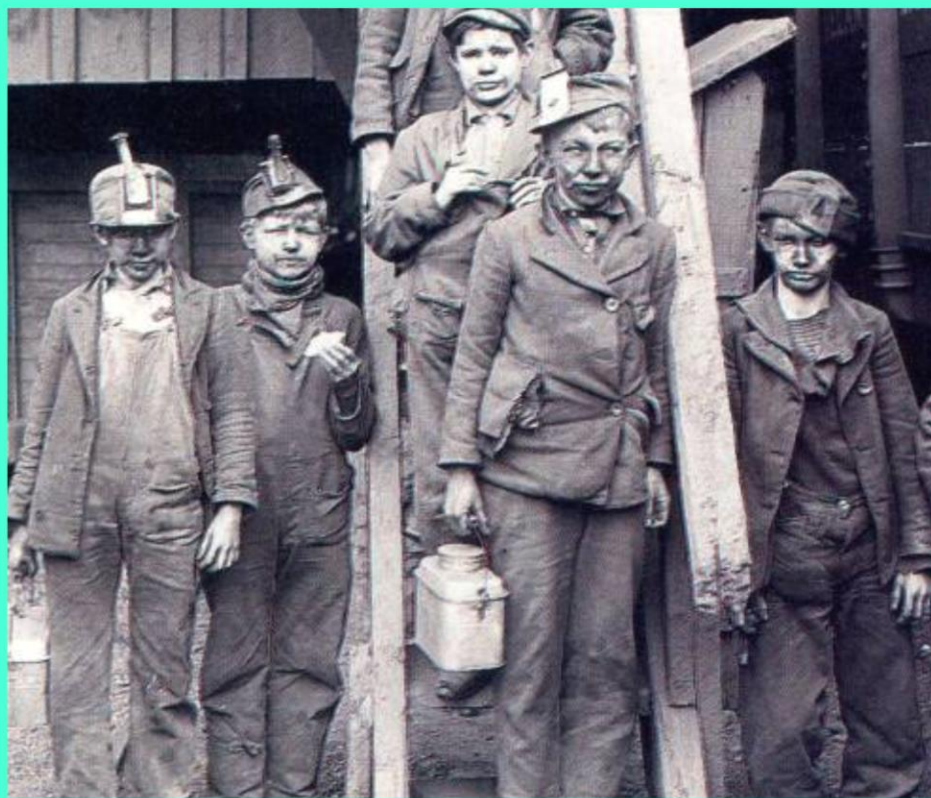
- This was America during this time period (1865-1900)

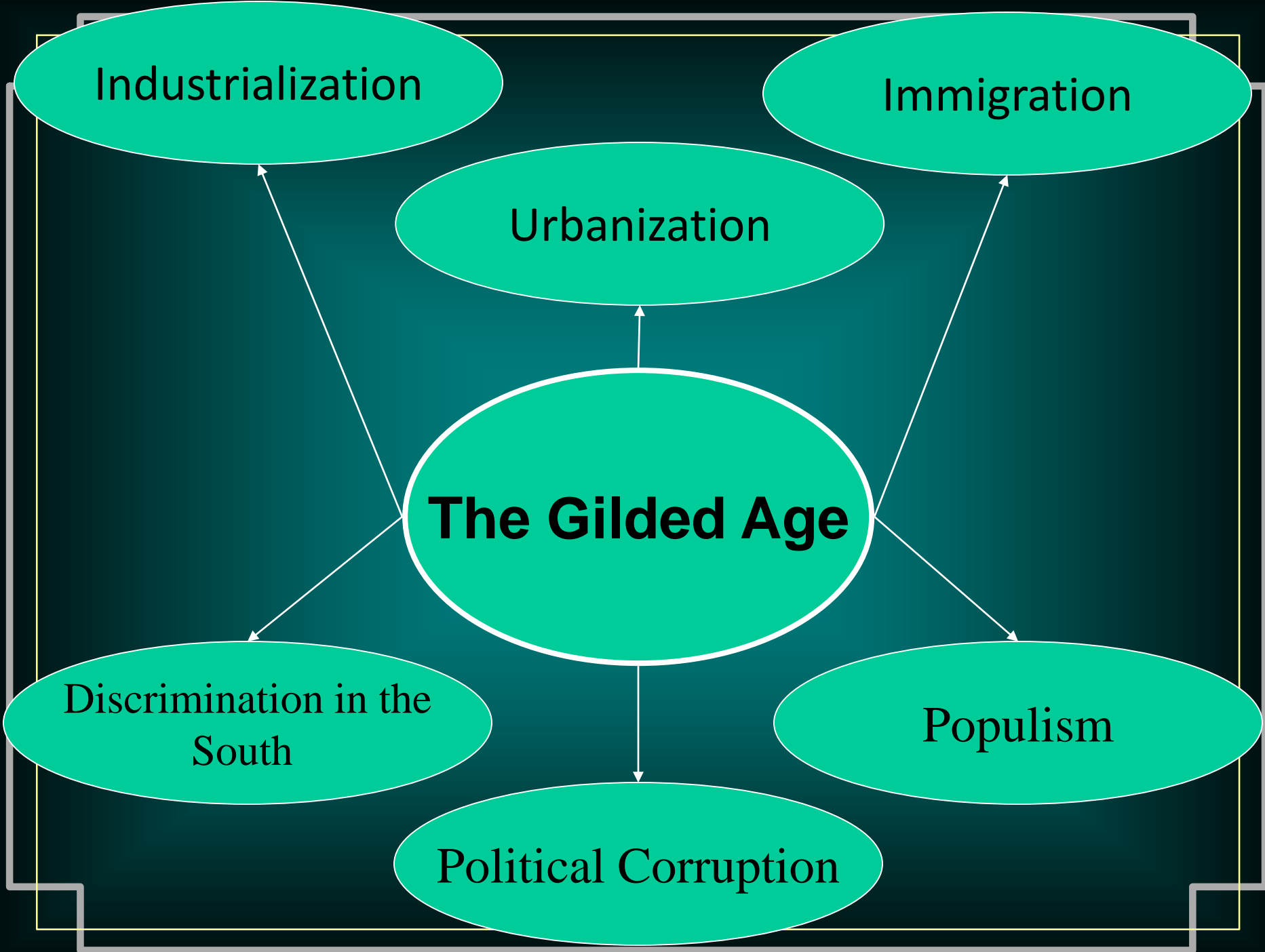


- On the outside, golden, shiny, beautiful:
- Expanding economy, population growth
- Extravagant displays of wealth by America's upper class



- Hiding the rotten inside:
  - Political corruption, scandals,  
greed, child labor, materialism,  
racial discrimination, etc.





Industrialization

Immigration

Urbanization

**The Gilded Age**

Discrimination in the South

Populism

Political Corruption





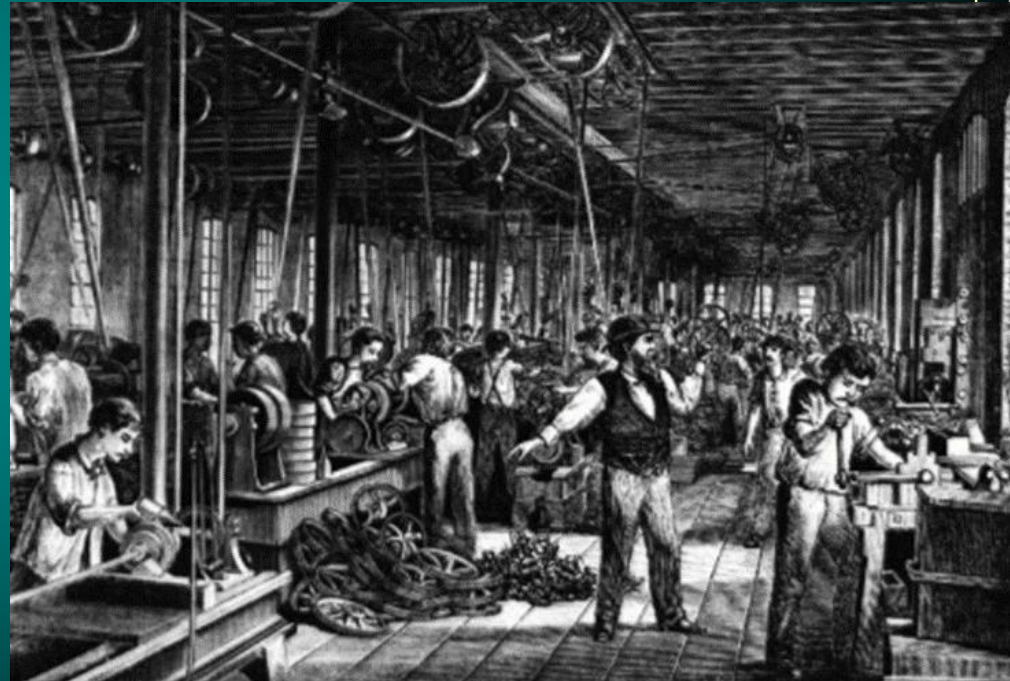
## DOMESTIC SYSTEM

Work done at home or small workshops by hand



## FACTORY SYSTEM

Work done in a factory by machine





# Industrial Revolution

- Includes:
  - Change from the domestic system of manufacturing to the factory system
  - new technologies - production, communication and transportation
  - New sources of power - water to steam to electricity

(U.S – early 1800s to early 1900s)

# Changes in Daily Life

## Life in the 1860s

- No indoor electric lights
- No refrigeration
- No indoor plumbing
- Kerosene or wood to heat
- Wood stoves to cook with
- Horse and buggy
- In 1860, most mail from the East Coast took ten days to reach the Midwest and three weeks to get to the West Coast.
- A letter from Europe to a person on the frontier could take several months to reach its destination.

## Life in the 1900s

- US Govt issued 500,000 patents—electricity
- Refrigerated railroad cars
- Sewer systems and sanitation
- Increased productivity made life easier and comfortable.
- Power stations, electricity for lamps, fans, printing presses, appliances, typewriters, etc.
- New York to San Francisco to 10 days using railroad.
- 1.5 million telephones in use all over the country
- Western Union Telegraph was sending thousands of messages daily throughout the country.



# Causes of Rapid Industrialization

1. Steam Revolution of the 1830s-1850s.
2. The Railroad fueled the growing US economy:
  - First big business in the US.
  - A magnet for financial investment.
  - The key to opening the West.
  - Aided the development of other industries.



# Causes of Rapid Industrialization

## 3. Technological innovations.

- Bessemer and open hearth process
- Refrigerated cars
- Edison
  - "Wizard of Menlo Park"
  - light bulb, phonograph, motion pictures.

# Causes of Rapid Industrialization

4. Unskilled & semi-skilled labor in abundance.
5. Abundant capital.
6. New, talented group of businessmen [**entrepreneurs**] and advisors.
7. Market growing as US population increased.
8. Government willing to help at all levels to stimulate economic growth (government intervened).
9. Abundant natural resources.

