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**Rapid Review: The Gilded Age (Rise of Industrial America), 1865-1900**

1. What was *How the Other Half Lives*?
2. What was a political machine and what did they do?
3. A company gains control over other companies that produce the same product; Ida Tarbell said that Rockefeller
4. took over her Father’s oil business which led him to despair and suicide. Which business plan did Rockefeller use?
5. A company controls both the production and distribution of its product. Carnegie owned the mines that produced the iron ore AND the factories that turned it into steel. Which business plan did Carnegie use?
6. Corporate business grew fast in the Gilded Age because of laissez-faire capitalism. What is this policy?
7. Explain the concept of scientific management (Taylorism).
8. What is a Horatio Alger story?
9. What groups of people served to significantly expand the labor force during the Gilded Age?
10. The Knights of Labor were the first labor union; what helped their membership grow so large?
11. What happened during the Haymarket Square Riot that made people look down on labor unions?
12. Why was the IWW (Wobblies) considered to be a more “radical” labor union?
13. Which labor union was led by Samuel Gompers?
14. What caused the Pullman strike?
15. “Old immigrants” came from which areas of the world?
16. “New immigrants” came from which areas of the world?
17. What did the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882 do?
18. Why did Americans support the Chinese Exclusion Act of 1882?
19. What are “nativists” opposed to?
20. Explain the theory of Social Darwinism.
21. What was Carnegie’s “Gospel of Wealth”?

Urbanization

The late 19th century saw an increase in the urban population of America. Between 1870 and 1920, the number of Americans living in cities rose from 10 million to 54 million. This rapid increase led to crowding issues and resulted in people living in extremely close quarters in urban areas. Multiple families would have little other choices than to occupy a one-family residence. These multifamily urban dwellings, called tenements, were captured by photojournalist Jacob Riis to expose the unsanitary and overcrowded conditions. Riis published his photographs in his book *How the Other Half Lives*, with the hope of drawing attention to the terrible living conditions.

Rise of Political Machines

Political machines were organizations that arose to support a political party and keep that party in power. These organizations offered services and favors to voters (mostly new immigrants) in exchange for their votes and financial support. Most major city politics were dominated by political machines. Tammany Hall in New York City was the largest, with William “Boss” Tweed at its head leading the corrupt political ring. The use of graft, or the illegal use of political influence for personal gain, was common among members and bosses of these organizations.

Big Business/The Consolidation of Big Business

\*Vertical integration occurs when a company controls both the production and distribution of its product. For example, Andrew Carnegie used vertical integration to gain control over the U.S. steel industry.

\*Horizontal integration occurs when one company gains control over other companies that produce the same product. For example John D. Rockefeller used horizontal integration to gain control over the U.S. oil industry.

\*By the end of the 19th century, monopolies (trusts) exercised a big degree of control over key aspects of the American economy; this occurred because of laissez-faire capitalism (companies are allowed to operate *without* government interference).

Consequences of Consolidation: Corporations built large, systematically organized factories where work was increasingly performed by machines and unskilled workers; corporations introduced systems of “scientific management,” also known as *Taylorism*, to increase factory production and lower labor costs by trying to make workers like machines; corporations accumulated huge sums of investment capital; corporations used the RRs to help develop national markets for their goods.

Celebrating American’s Industrial Success: The World’s Columbian Exposition of 1893 in Chicago showcased America’s industrial development; the popular Horatio Alger Jr. (rags to riches) stories of the day provided concrete examples of the ideal of the self-made man who pulls himself up by his own bootstraps and doesn’t look for help or hand-outs from others.

Labor and Labor Unions, 1865-1900

\*Key Trends: Immigrants, women, and children significantly expanded the labor force and were the primary source of labor for factory owners because they could be paid less; machines increasingly replaced skilled artisans; large corporations dominated the American economy; corporations developed national and even international markets for their goods.

The Knights of Labor

\*Led by Terence V. Powderly. They grew fast because of their open-membership, and the fast growth of the urban population; the Knights welcomed unskilled and semiskilled workers, including women, immigrants, and African Americans; their goal was to create a cooperative society in which laborers, NOT CAPITALISTS, owned the industries in which they worked; the Haymarket Square riot (in Chicago at McCormick Reaper Co. over an 8 hour workday…someone threw a bomb) was unfairly blamed on the Knights. As a result, the public associated them with anarchists and the union began to decline.

The Industrial Workers of the World (IWW or The Wobblies)

\*Led by Eugene Debs, “Mother” Jones, Elizabeth Flynn, Big Bill Haywood; like the Knights they strove to unite all laborers, including unskilled African Americans, who were excluded from craft unions; The IWW’s motto was “An injury to one is an injury to all,” and its goal was to create “ONE BIG UNION.” UNLIKE the Knights, the IWW embraced the idea of class conflict and endorsed violent tactics, so they were viewed as radicals; the IWW was never as large as the Knights and later collapsed during World War I.

The American Federation of Labor (AFL)

\*Led by Samuel Gompers; this was alliance of SKILLED workers in craft unions; the AFL concentrated on “bread and butter” issues like higher wages, shorter hours, and better working conditions.

The Homestead Strike, 1892

\*Carnegie had all union workers kicked out of his plant and replaced with non-union workers. Workers rebelled and seized the plant and violence occurred. The state militia was called in; this strike seriously hurt the steelworker’s union.

The Pullman Strike, 1894

\*The Pullman Palace Car Company cut wages while at the same time maintaining rents and prices in a company town where 12,000 workers lived. This action caused the Pullman Strike; the strike halted a large portion of American railroad commerce; the strike ended when President Cleveland ordered federal troops to Chicago to crush the strike.

Immigration

\*The New Immigrants: Prior to 1880, most immigrants to the U.S. came from northern Europe and the British Isles (these were the old immigrants); beginning in the 1880s, a NEW WAVE of IMMIGRANTS left Europe for America. They came from southern and eastern Europe; they settled in large cities in the Northeast and Midwest (these were the new immigrants); very few NEW IMMIGRANTS settled in the South.

The Chinese Exclusion Act, 1882

\*This act prohibited the immigration of Chinese to America for 10 years; American workers felt threatened by Chinese workers who would work for lower wages; support for the law was particularly strong in California.

Nativist Opposition to the New Immigrants

\*Nativists had previously opposed Irish and German Catholic immigrants.

\*Nativists opposed the New Immigrants for the following reasons:

-The new immigrants were heavily Catholic and Jewish

-They spoke different languages and practiced different cultural traditions

-They did not understand American political traditions

-They threatened to take away jobs because they were willing to work for lower wages.

The New Industrial Order: Supporters and Reformers

\*Social Darwinism: the belief that the fittest survive in both nature and society – those who are wealthy are the fittest members of society; elite business and industrial leaders used Social Darwinism to justify their financial success.

\*Gospel of Wealth: Promoted by Andrew Carnegie; it expressed the belief that, as the guardians of society’s wealth, the rich have a duty to serve society through charity