

United States History

Chapter 9

Industrialization 1865-1901

Section 1—The Rise of Industry

- U.S. rose as an industrial power after the Civil War
- Factors necessary for industrial growth are cheap labor, new inventions and products, technology, capital and raw materials
- By early 1900s U.S. was one world's leading industrial nations with the highest standard of living
- U.S. had lots of raw materials timber, coal, iron, gold, copper and oil. Most was located out west so settlement of west was important for industrialization
- 1859 1st oil well, Edwin Drake, Pennsylvania
- Large work force. Millions left farms and rural areas to work in mines and factories. Between 1860-1910 over 20 million immigrants moved to the U.S.
- “laissez-faire” means no gov't interference in economy and business
- Free enterprise (with little gov't control) attracted people to invest in business to make profit. Entrepreneurs (people who risk money to start a new business) were supporting new businesses in U.S.
- Gov't did not raise taxes, control wages or prices but did interfere in two areas (1)protective tariffs (2)subsidies to built roads, canals, and railroads with tax dollars
- New inventions increased productivity, improved transportation and communication, produced new wealth and jobs
- 1874 Alexander Graham Bell invented telephone and started AT&T
- Thomas Edison most famous inventor, phonograph, electric light bulb, electric generator, built 1st central power plant. Started several companies with merged to form Edison General Electric Co. today known as GE
- Thaddeus Lower invented ice machine
- Gustavo Swift had an engineer build refrigerated rail car
- Textile and shoe industries became mechanized
- Dec. 17, 1903, Kitty Hawk, North Carolina. 1st manned, powered flight by Wilbur and Orville Wright

Section 2

- 1862 Pacific Railway Act approved construction of transcontinental railroad. Two companies get the contract
- Union Pacific started in Omaha, Neb moving west, used mostly Irish workers