

Unit 6: Notes #2 – Effects of Industry

- Social Darwinism and Business
 - **Social Darwinism**
 - Grew from Charles Darwin's theory of biological evolution
 - On the *Origin of Species*
 - Some individuals of species flourish, while other do not
 - Natural selection weeded out less-suited individuals and enabled the best-adapted to survive
 - H. Spencer used Darwin's ideas to explain human society
 - Social Darwinism supported laissez-faire
 - The market place should not be regulated
 - Meaning whether a business was a success or failure was governed by natural law and no one has the right to intervene
- **Sherman Anti-Trust Act**
 - Made it illegal to form a trust that interfered with free trade between states or with other countries
- Labor Unions Emerge
 - Long Hours and Danger
 - Steel mills was one of the largest employers demanded a seven day work week
 - Seamstresses and factory workers had six day work week and 12 or more hour days
 - No vacation
 - No sick leave
 - No unemployment compensation
 - No reimbursement for injuries suffered on the job
 - Injuries were common
 - Dirty, poorly ventilated factories
 - 1882, on average 675 people were killed each week
- Union Movement Diverge
 - Craft Unionism
 - **Samuel Gompers and American Federation of Labor (AFL)**
 - Gompers was president
 - Focused on collective bargaining or negotiation between representatives of labor and management to reach written agreements on wages, hours and working conditions
 - Industrial Unionism
 - **Eugene V. Debs**, attempted to form an industrial union

- He won a strike for higher wages
 - Socialism and the IWW
 - 1905 a group of radical unionists and socialist in the Chicago area organized the **Industrial Workers of the World (IWW)**
 - This union actually welcomed African Americans
 - Strikes Turn Violent
 - Example:
 - Homestead Strike
 - Carnegie Steel Company in Homestead PA, workers called a strike when it was announced wages were planned to be cut, many were killed and the strike lasted for five months
- Immigrants and Urbanization
 - Through the “Golden Door”
 - Millions of immigrants enter the United States in the late 19th century and early 20th century, lured by the promise of a better life
 - Life in a New Land
 - A difficult Journey
 - No matter what part of the globe immigrants came from they faced many adjustments to an alien and often unfriendly culture
 - Immigration Restrictions
 - **Melting Pot**
 - Many native born Americans thought of their country as a melting pot or a mixture of people of different cultures and races who blended together by abandoning their native languages and customs
 - Many new immigrants however did not wish to give up their cultural identities
 - As immigration increased, strong anti-immigrant feelings emerged
 - The Rise of Nativism
 - **Nativism**
 - Favoritism towards native-born Americans
 - Was one response to the growth of immigration
 - Many nativists believe that Anglo-Saxons and German ancestors of the English were superior to other ethnic groups
- **Urbanization**
 - Growth of cities, mostly in the regions of the Northeast and Midwest
 - Migration from country to city

- Rapid improvements in farming technology were good news for farmers but not for others
 - Caused fewer laborers were needed on farms
 - Resulted in many moving to the city to find work
- Urban Problems
 - Housing
 - Two housing options
 - Buy a house on the outskirts of town where they would face transportation problems
 - Rent cramped rooms in a boarding house in the central city
 - New housing were designed
 - Row houses
 - Single family dwellings that shared sidewalks with other similar houses – packed many single-family residence onto a single block
 - After working class families left the central city, immigrants often took over their old housing sometimes with two or more families occupying a one-family residence
 - Transportation
 - Innovations in mass transit, transportation systems designed to move large numbers of people along fixed routes, enabled workers to go to and from jobs more easily
 - Street cars were introduced in San Francisco in 1873 and electric subways in Boston in 1897
 - By the early 20th century mass transits networks in many urban areas linked neighborhoods to one another and to outlying communities
 - Cities struggled to repair old transit systems and to build new ones to meet the demand of expanding populations
 - Water
 - Cities also faced the problem of supplying safe drinking water
 - As urban populations grew in the 1840s and 1850s cities such as New York and Cleveland built public waterworks to handle the increasing demand
 - As late as the 1860s however the resident of many cities had grossly inadequate piped water—or none at all
 - Even in large cities like New York homes seldom had indoor plumbing and residents had to collect water in pails from faucets on the street and heat it for bathing
 - Necessity of eases such as cholera and typhoid fever was obvious
 - To make city water safer, filtration was introduced in the 1870s and chlorination's in 1908

- However many city dwellers still had not access to safe water in the early 20th century
- Sanitation
 - As cities grew so did the challenge of keeping them clean
 - Horse manure piled up on the streets, sewage flowed through open gutters and factories spewed foul smoke into the air
 - No dependable trash collection lead people to dump their garbage on the streets
 - By 1900 many cities has developed sewer lines and created sanitations departments
- Crime
 - As the population of cities increased pickpocket and thieves flourished
 - Although New York City organized the first full-time salaried police force in 1844, it and most other city law enforcements units were too small to have much impact on crime
- Fire
 - Limited water supply in manly cities contributed to another menace, the spread of fires
 - Major fires occurred in almost every large American city during the 1870s and 1880s
 - Most cities were packed with wooden dwellings, which were like kindling waiting to be ignited
 - The use of candles and kerosene heaters also posed a fire hazard.
 - In San Francisco deadly fires often broke out during earthquakes
- Reformers Mobilize
 - Settlement House Movement
 - **Social Gospel Movement**
 - Preached salvation through service to the poor
 - Establishment of **Settlement Houses**
 - Community centers in slum neighborhoods that provided assistance to people in the area, especially immigrants
 - **Jane Addams**
 - One of the most influential members of the movements
 - Founded Chicago's Hull House