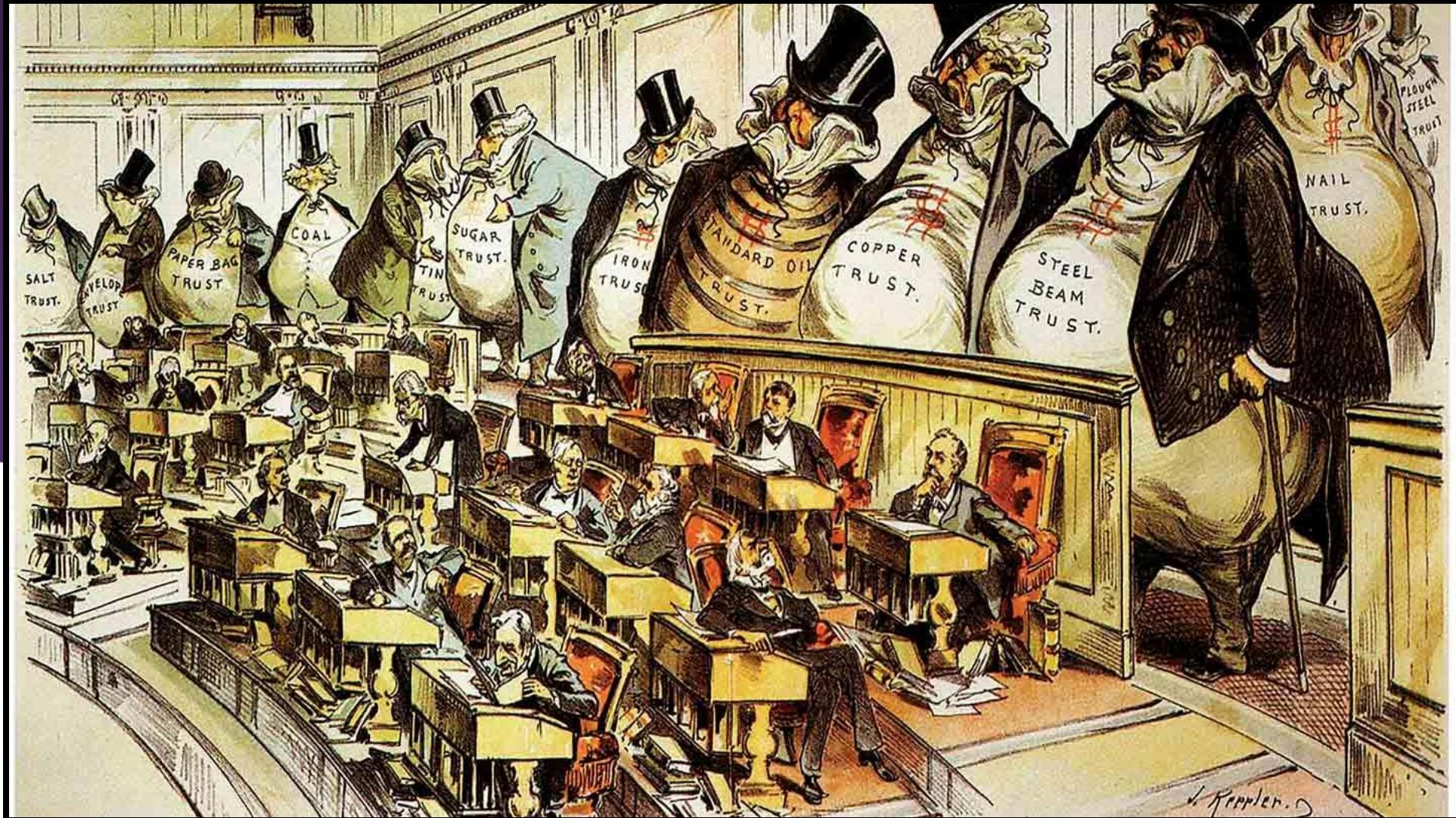
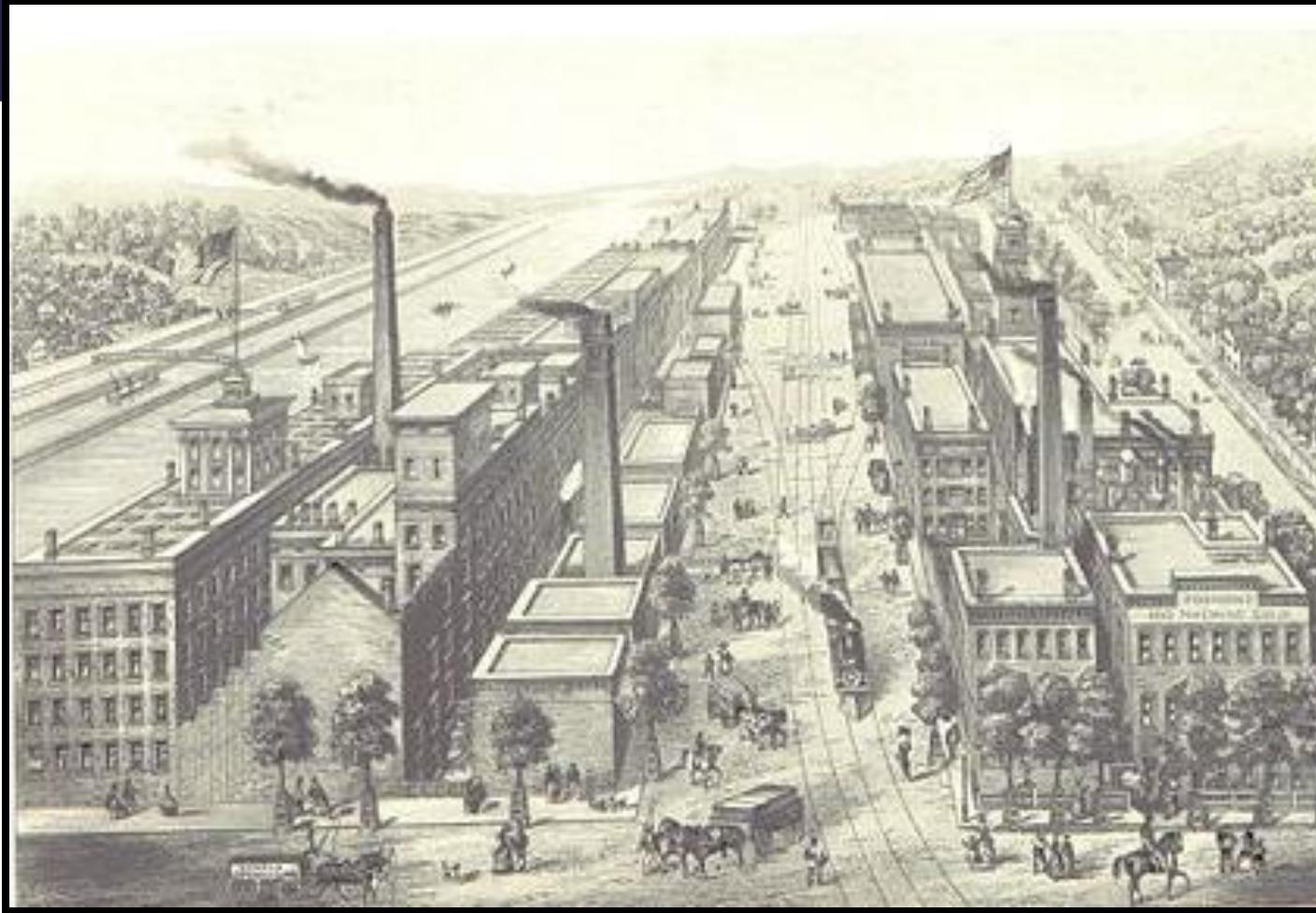


The Gilded Age, 1870-1900



Central Themes



- ▶ Development of the Railroads
- ▶ Social Construct of Social Darwinism
- ▶ Party Politics
- ▶ Economics and Party Realignment

What Does Gilded Age Mean?



- ▶ Coined by Mark Twain in 1873
- ▶ Meaning:
 - ▶ Shiny on the outside
 - ▶ Rusty underneath



Mark Twain
(1835-1910)

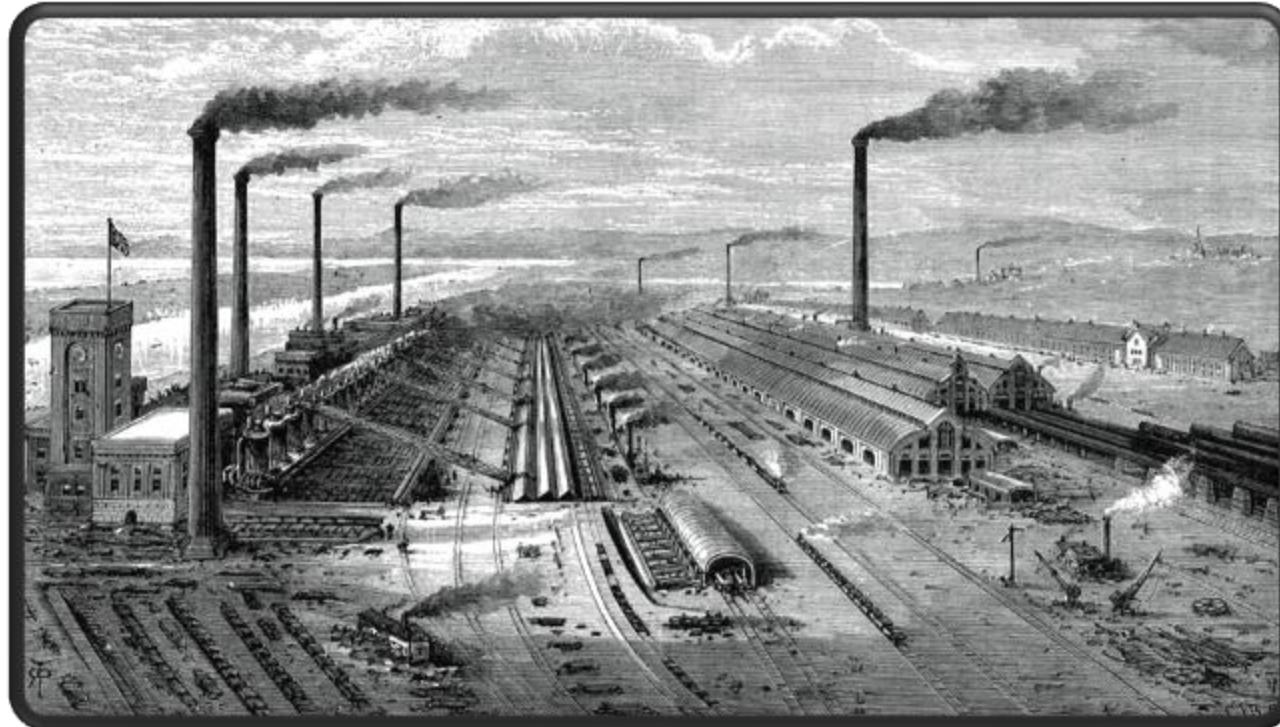
Why the United States?

- ▶ Technological Advances
- ▶ Resources
- ▶ Cheap Labor
- ▶ Population Growth
- ▶ Business & Manufacturing Innovations

Urban Growth: 1870 - 1900

City	1870 Population	1900 Population	Percent Increase
Boston	250,525	560,892	123.88
Chicago	298,977	1,698,575	468.12
Cincinnati	216,239	325,902	50.71
Los Angeles	5,728	102,479	1,689.08
Milwaukee	74,440	285,315	299.37
New Orleans	191,418	287,104	49.98
New York	1,478,103	3,437,202	132.54
Philadelphia	1,293,697	647,022	99.94
Pittsburgh	321,616	86,075	273.64
Portland	90,426	8,293	990.38
Richmond	51,038	85,050	66.64
San Francisco	149,473	342,782	129.32
Seattle	1,107	237,194	21,326.73

Era of Inventions



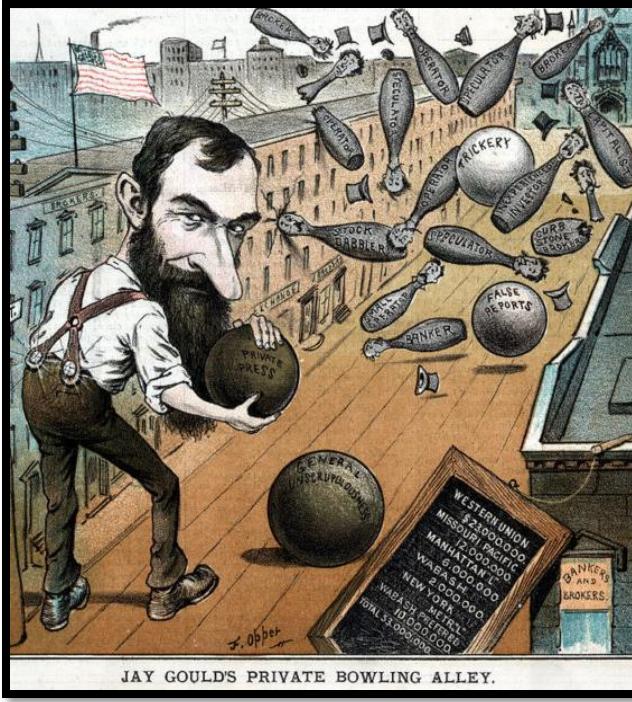
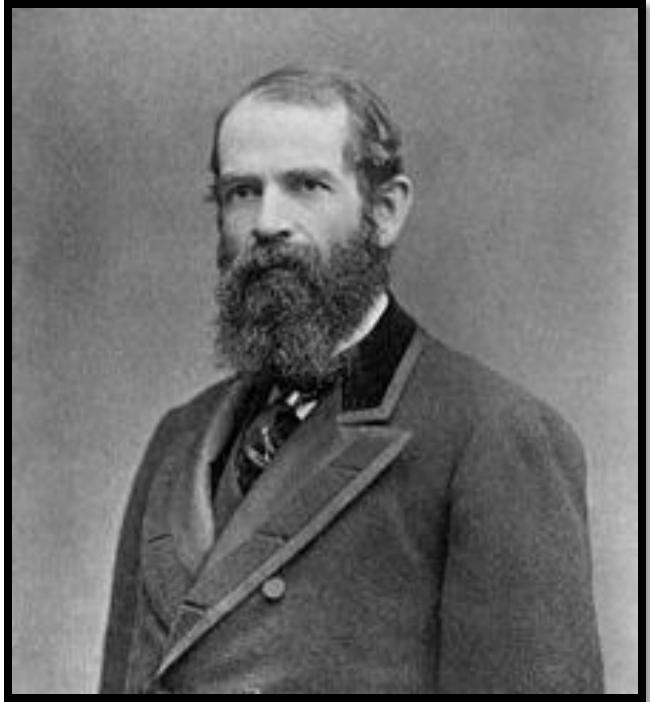
- ▶ Inventions:
 - ▶ From 1790 – 1860:
 - ▶ 36,000 patents
 - ▶ From 1860 – 1900:
 - ▶ +500,000 patents

Origins of the Gilded Age? Railroads

- ▶ Railroad expansion
- ▶ 1870-1880: railroad track doubled
- ▶ 1880-1890: doubled again
- ▶ Fueled the boom? Credit
 - ▶ Privately owned, publicly funded



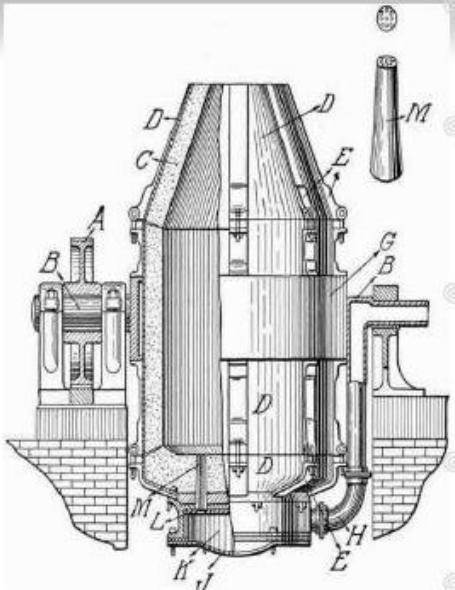
Jason 'Jay' Gould: Speculator



- ▶ Jay Gould (1836-1892)
 - ▶ First railroad purchased at 25
 - ▶ Sold it for \$130,000 (\$2.5 million)
- ▶ Business Strategy
- ▶ Growth of the New York Stock Exchange
- ▶ Gould's Fortune:
~\$100 million

Henry Bessemer

BESSEMER PROCESS



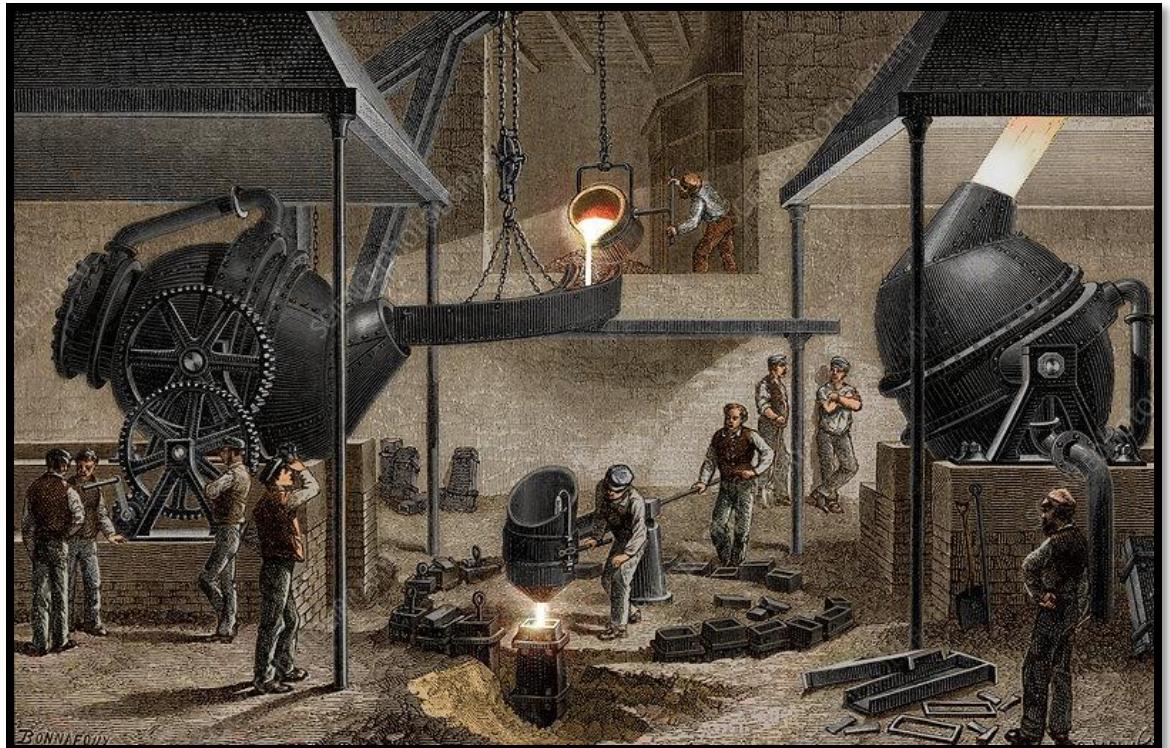
The Bessemer process was invented by Henry Bessemer.

During the Bessemer process, a blast of cold air goes through the iron ore to remove all impurities.

It made the production of steel (iron mixed with other metals) easier and quicker.

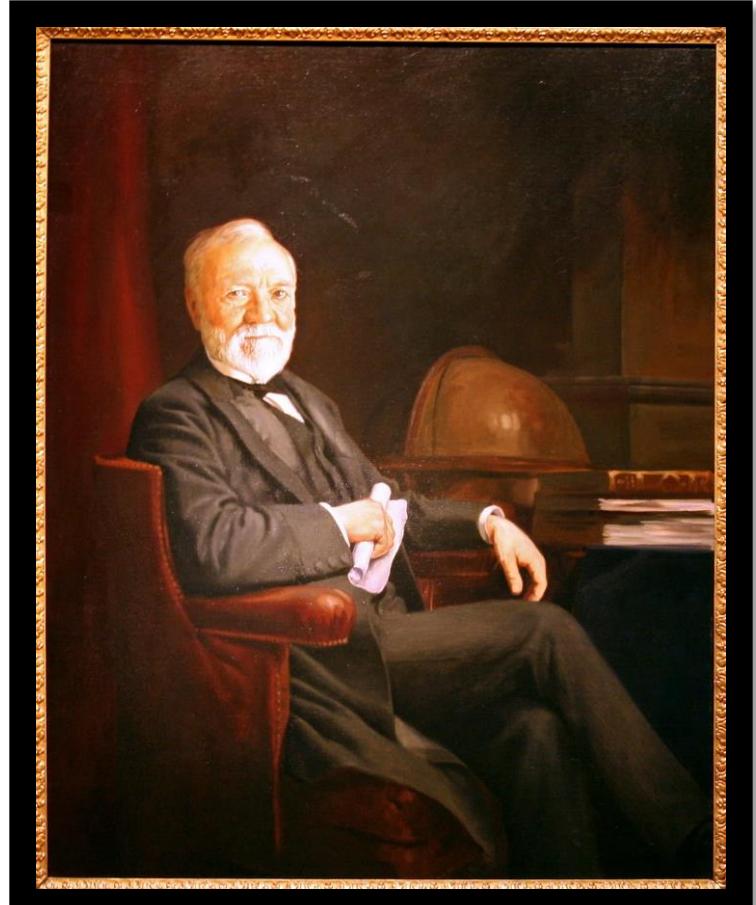
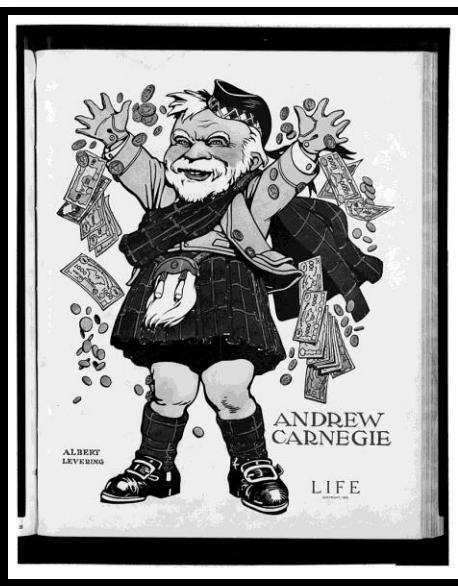
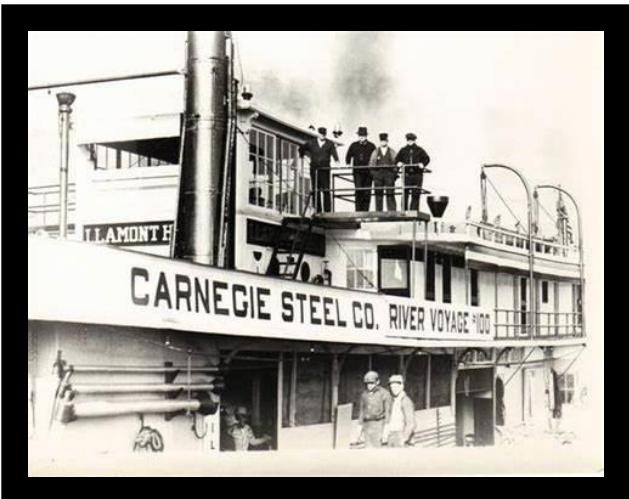
Steel was now stronger and more workable.

It triggered the growth in other industries.



Carnegie Steel

- ▶ Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919)
 - ▶ From Rags to Riches
 - ▶ Scottish Immigrant
 - ▶ “King Steel”



Vertical Integration

CONTROLLING EVERY
LEVEL OF PRODUCTION

Vertical Consolidation



Birth of the Modern-day Skyscraper



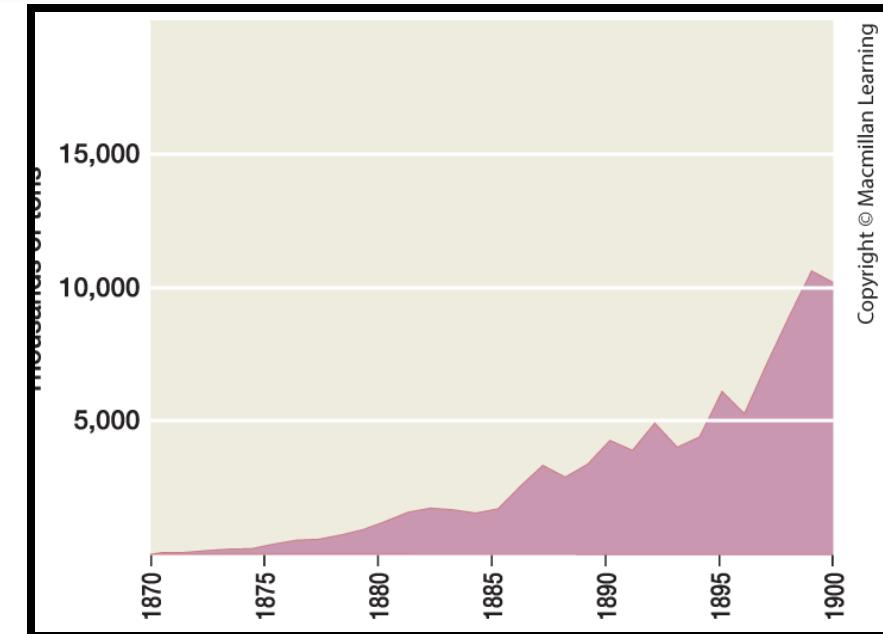
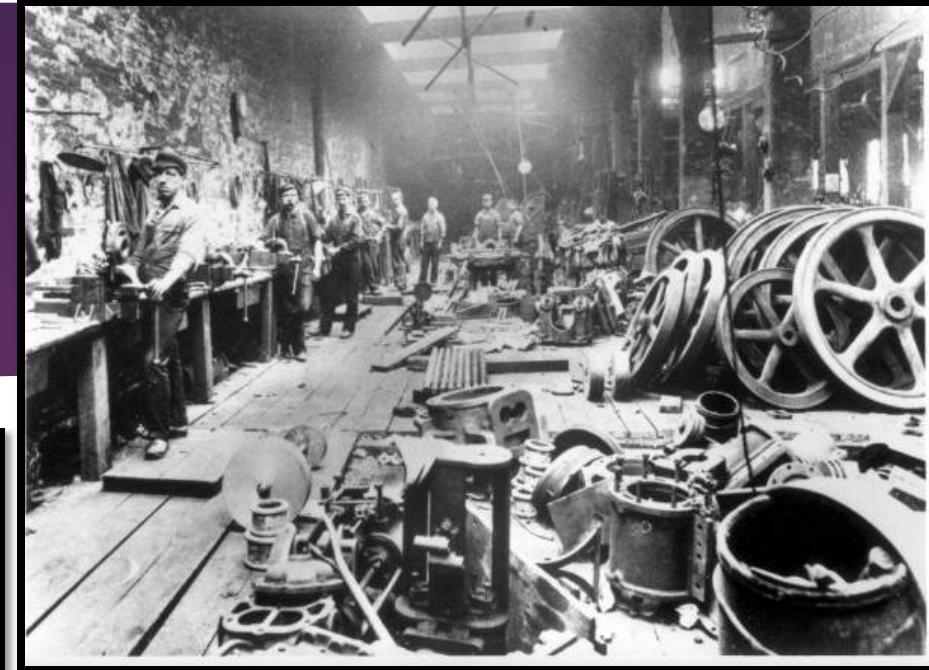
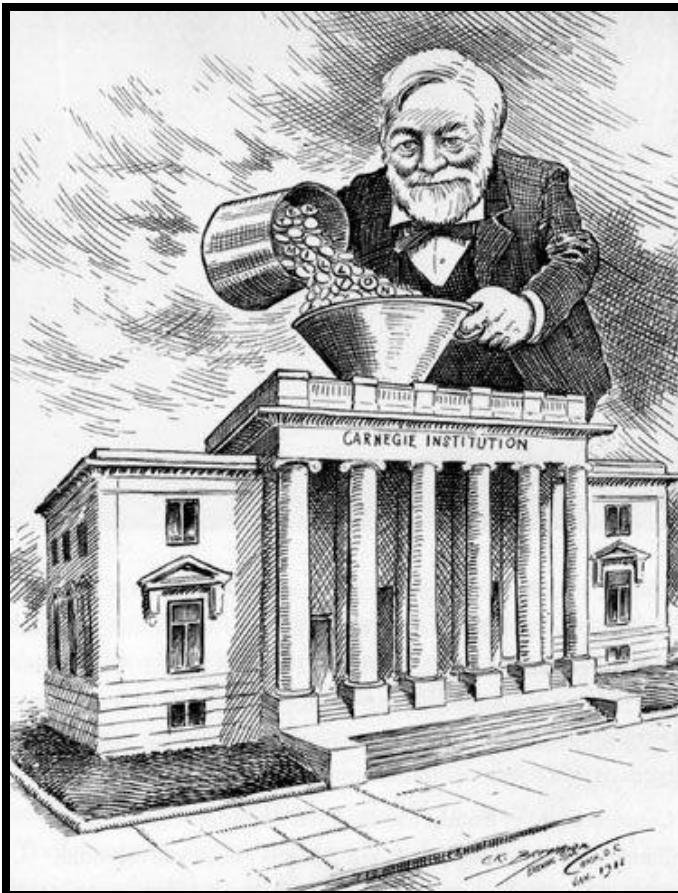
Home Insurance Building,
Chicago, IL (1885)



The Flat Iron Building,
New York City, NY (1889)

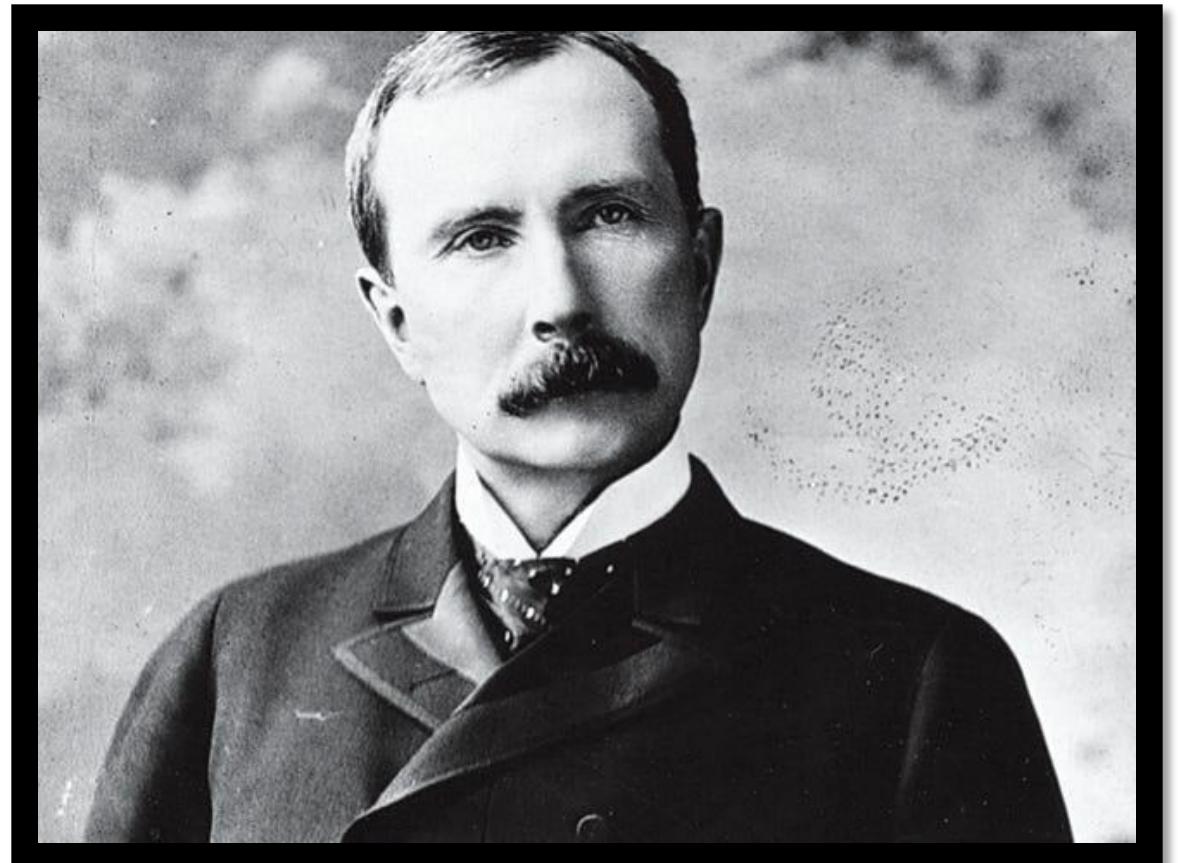
Carnegie Steel Workers

- ▶ Working Conditions:
 - ▶ Low Wages
 - ▶ 12-hour days, 6 days a week
 - ▶ Deadly
- ▶ Philanthropy?



John D. Rockefeller

- ▶ Standard Oil (1870)
 - ▶ Started by John D. Rockefeller (1839-1937)
- ▶ Deals with Railroads (Gould)= Profit
- ▶ Creation of the Trust
 - ▶ 1890: Owned 90% of oil business
 - ▶ 100,000 employees



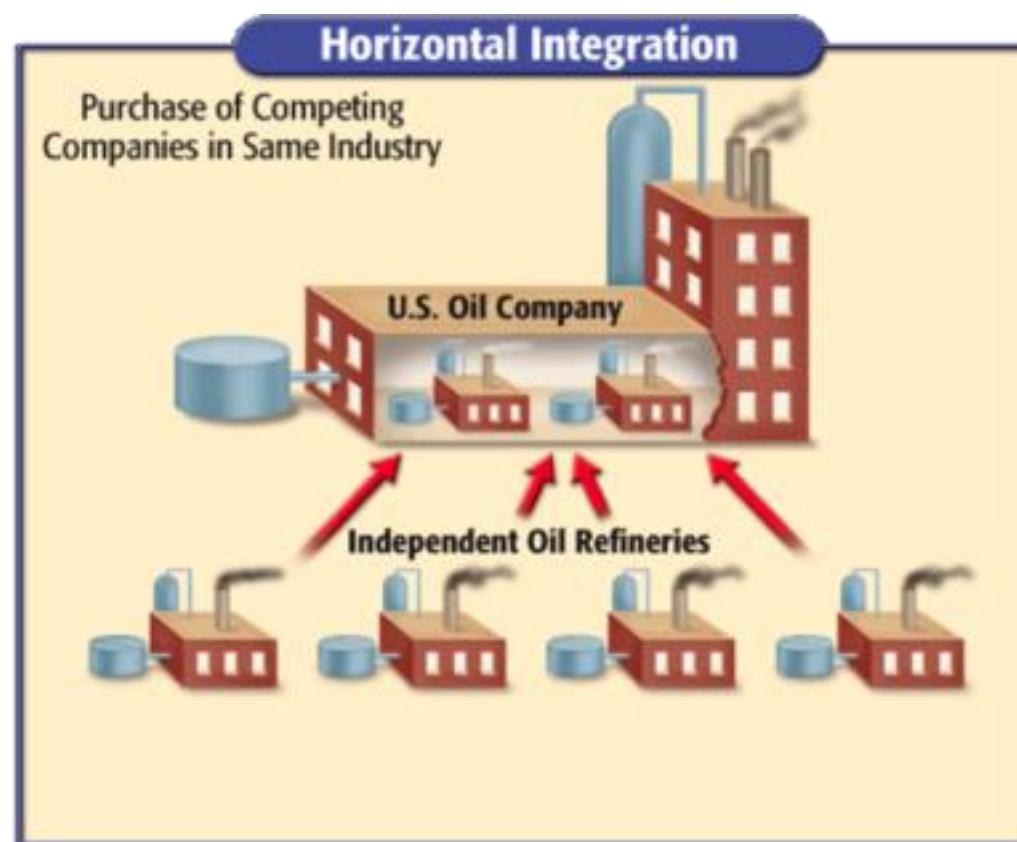
Creation of the Trust



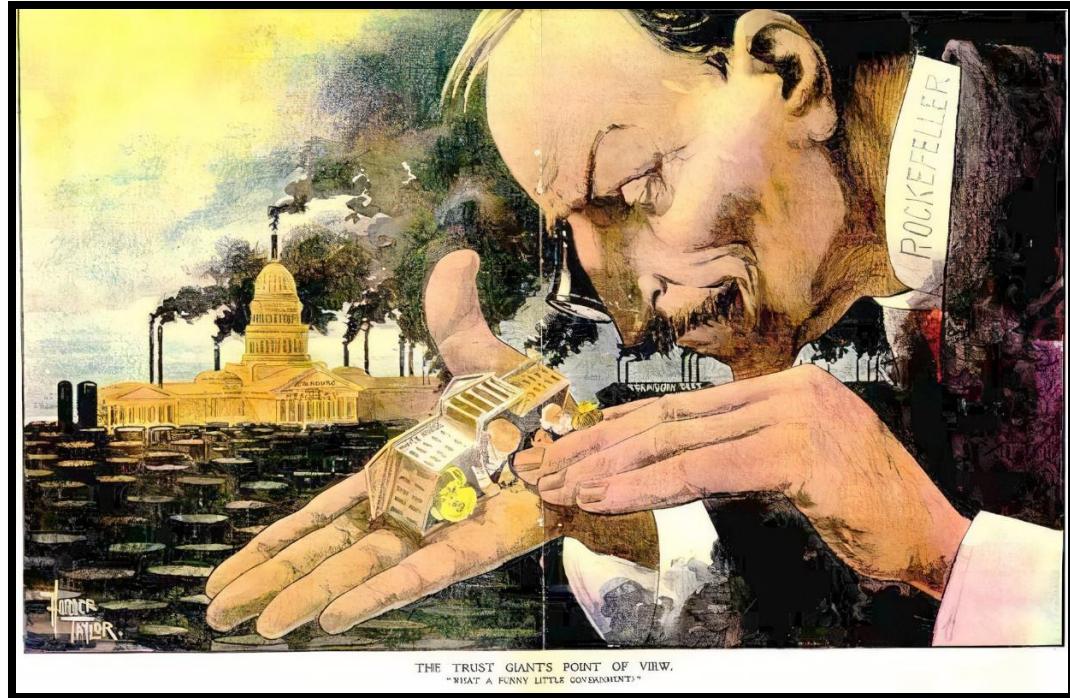
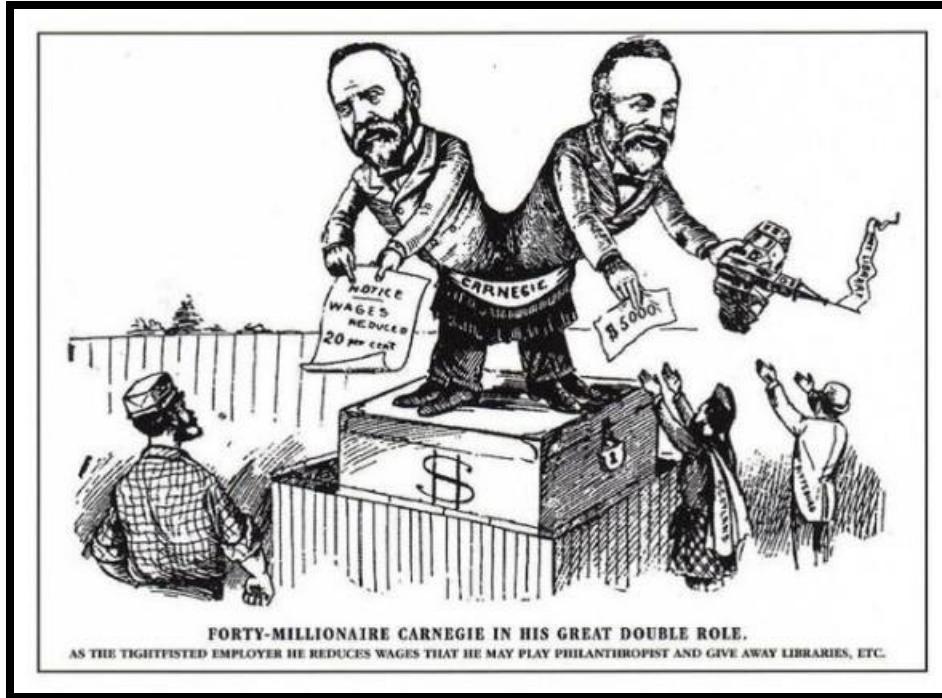
HORIZONTAL INTEGRATION



Vertical Integration vs. Horizontal Integration



Power of the Trusts



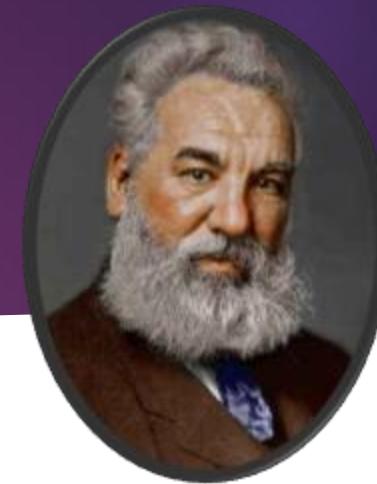
Paved the way for trusts in sugar, whiskey, matches, etc.

Communications

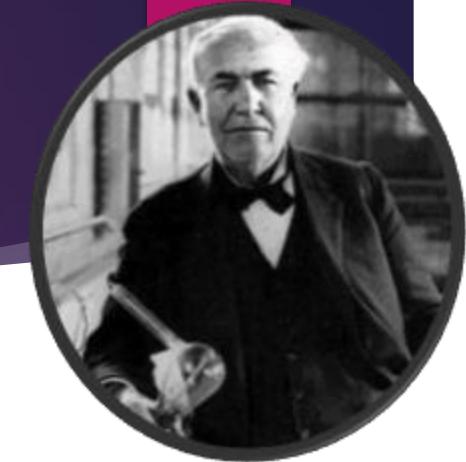
- ▶ Samuel F.B. Morse
 - ▶ Telegraph Service
- ▶ Alexander Graham Bell
 - ▶ American Telephone & Telegraph
- ▶ Thomas Edison
 - ▶ Edison's General Electric
 - ▶ Patent Explosion
 - ▶ “Yankee Ingenuity + Rugged Individualism”



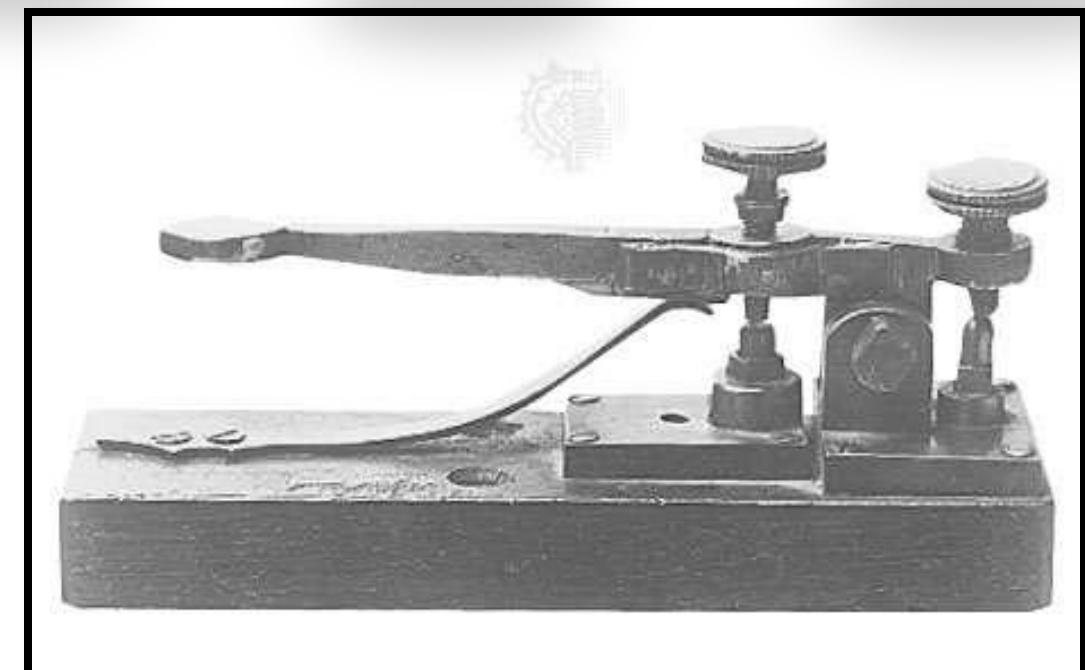
Samuel Morse
(1791-1872)



Alexander Graham Bell
(1847-1922)

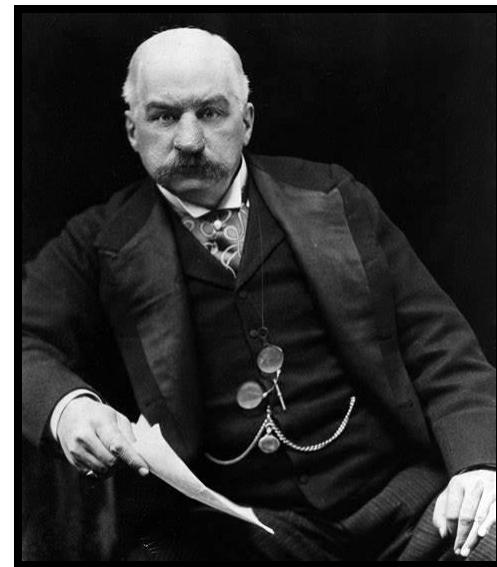


Thomas Edison
(1847-1931)



John Piermont Morgan

- ▶ Preeminent Finance Capitalist
- ▶ Business Merger Expert
- ▶ Corporate Consolidation
- ▶ New Corporate World

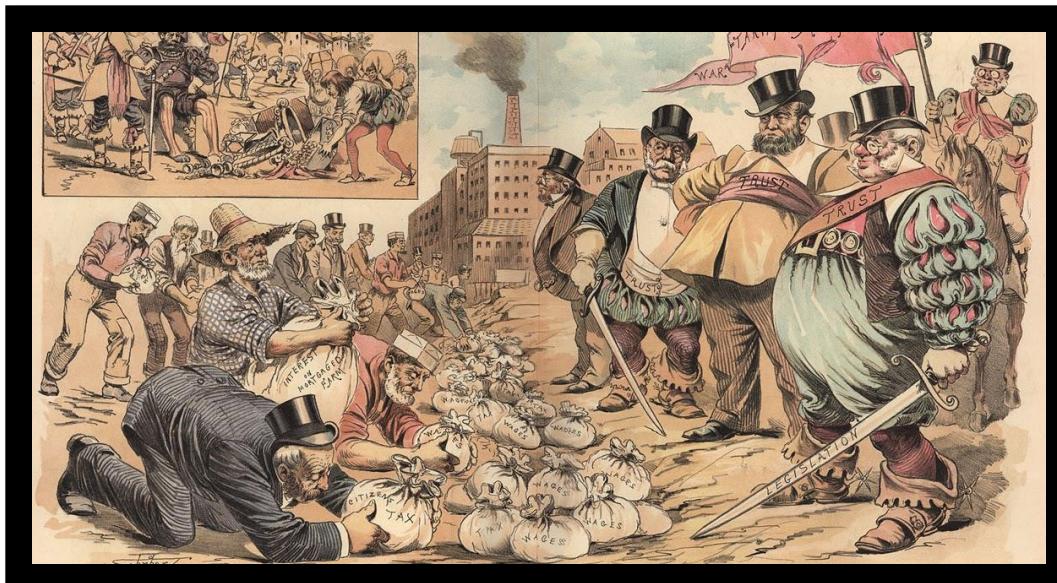


John Piermont Morgan
(1837-1913)



Social Darwinism

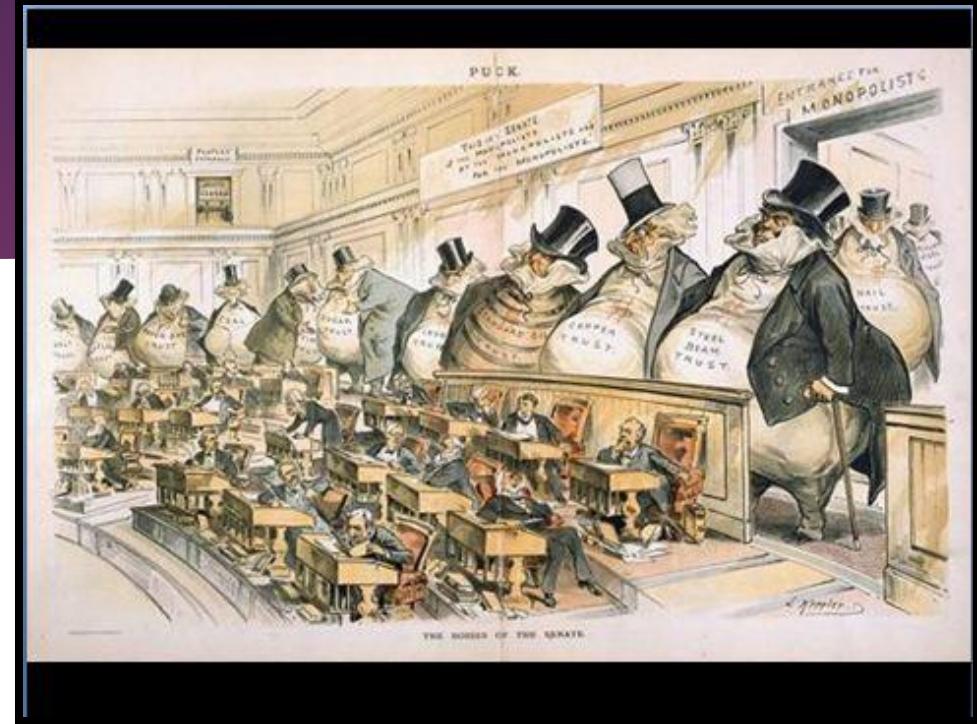
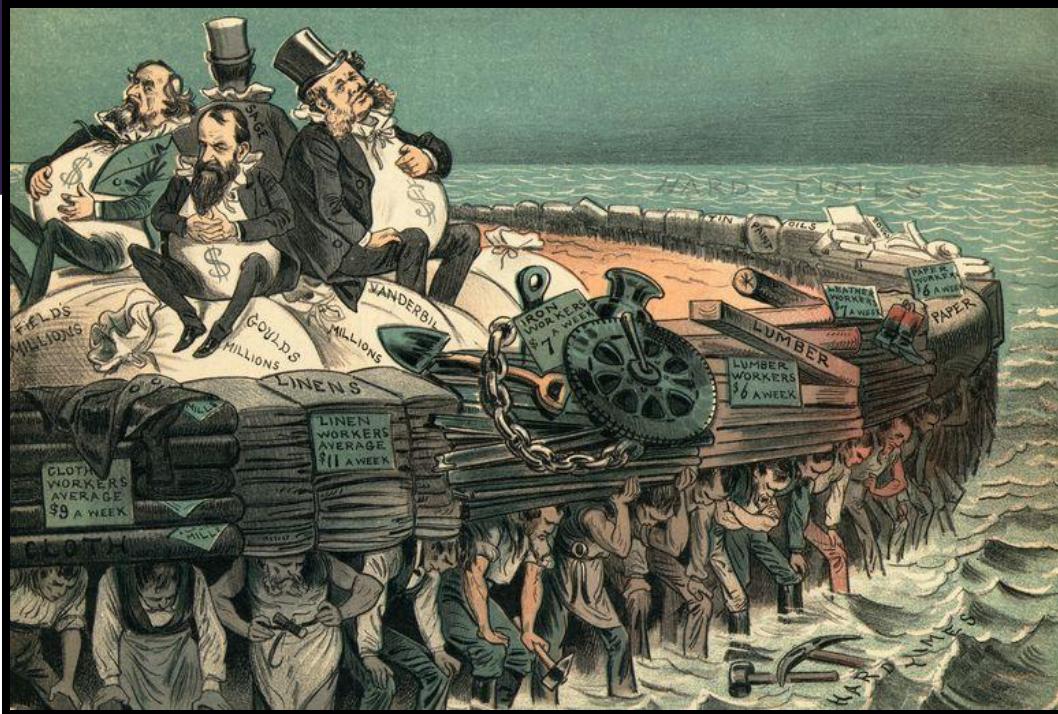
- ▶ Social Darwinism: “survival of the fittest”
 - ▶ “Millionaires are the product of natural selection...they get high wages and live in luxury... the bargain is a good one for society.”



“The American Beauty Rose can be produced in all its splendor only by sacrificing the early buds that grow up around it.”

— John D. Rockefeller, Jr.

Source: Guy R. Spencer, *The Literary Digest*, May 1905 (adapted)



Laissez-Faire

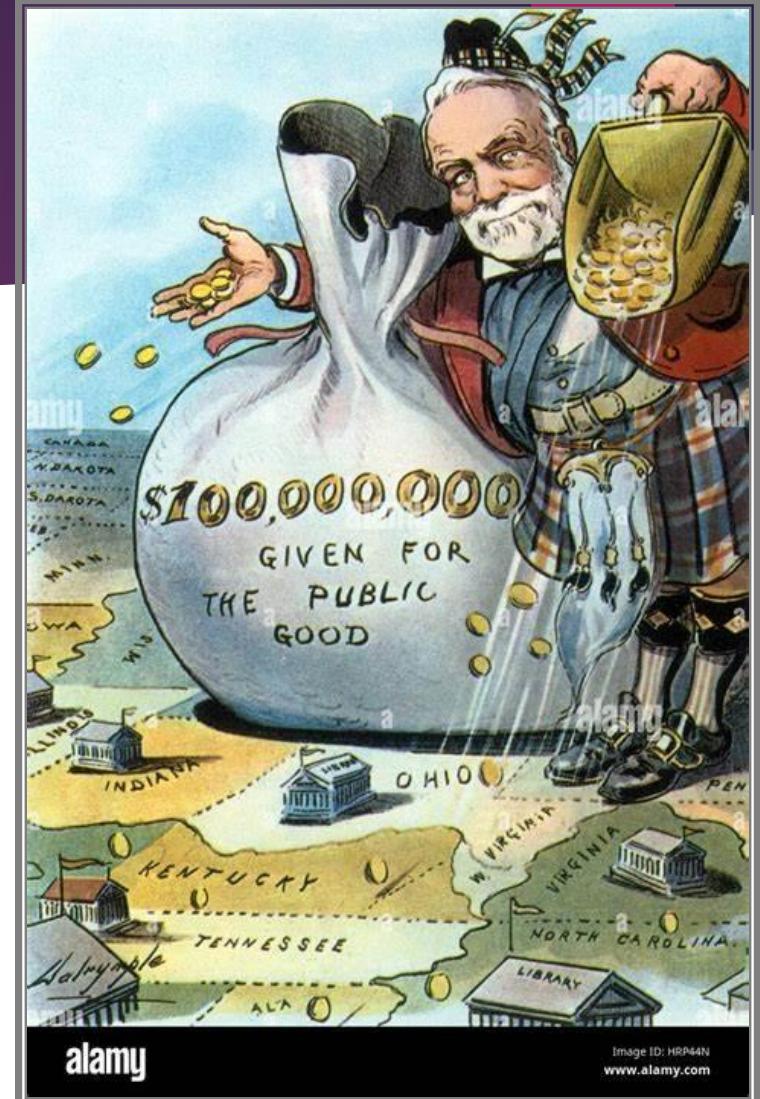
“Let it be” or “Let it go”

Gospel of Wealth

- ▶ Carnegie
- ▶ Preached philanthropy
- ▶ “Surplus wealth for the good of the people.”
- ▶ Follow through by Millionaires?



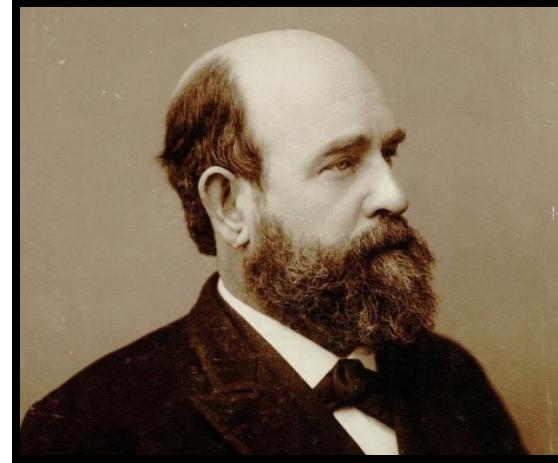
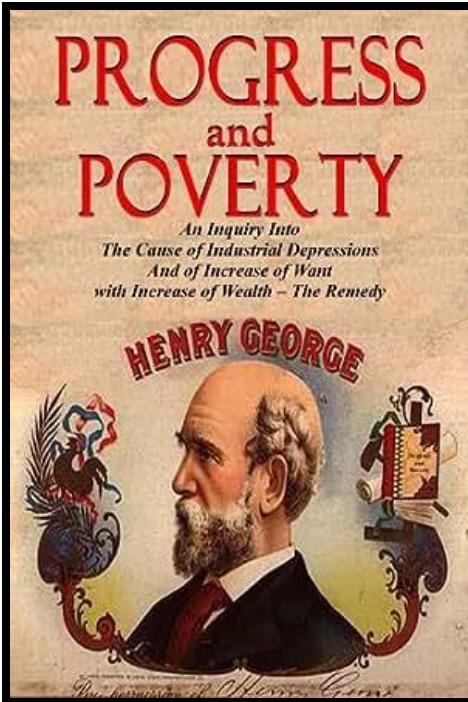
ANDREW CARNEGIE, L.L.D. (davish library distributor), who believes it a great disgrace to die rich. This sentiment is, however, not taken seriously by his old associates who are earnestly striving to be disgraced.



Critics of Social Darwinism

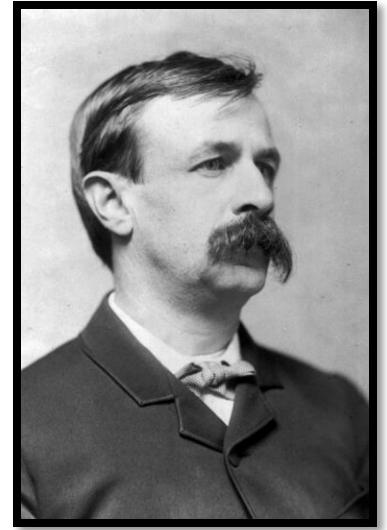
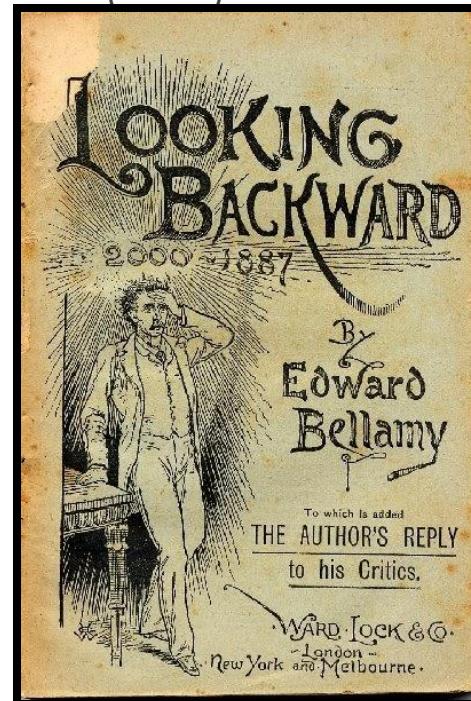
- ▶ Henry George

- ▶ *Progress & Poverty*
(1879)



- ▶ Edward Bellamy

- ▶ *Looking Backward*
(1888)



Political Life in Late 19th Century



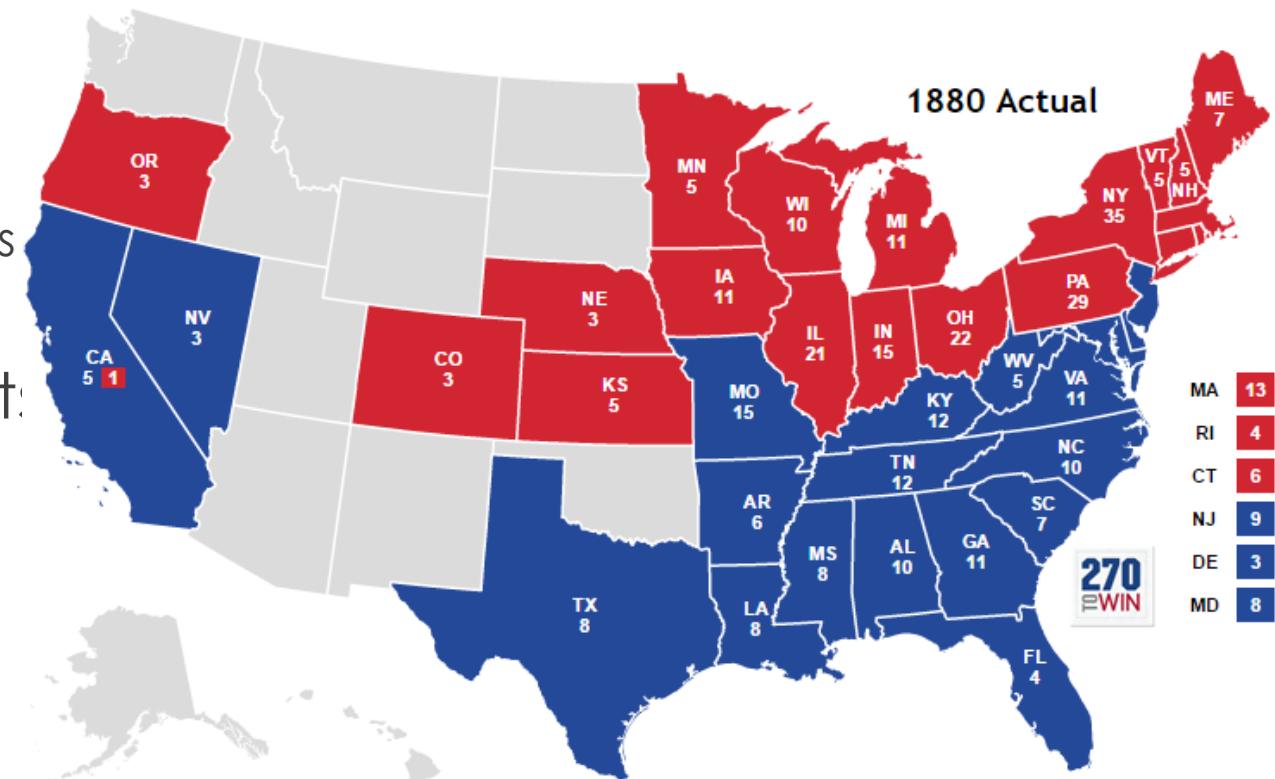
- ▶ Politics Equaled:
 - ▶ Identify
 - ▶ Livelihood
 - ▶ Entertainment
 - ▶ Spoils System
- ▶ 77% Voter Turnout
- ▶ Influences on Political Life:
 - ▶ Ethnicity
 - ▶ Religion
 - ▶ Race
 - ▶ Gender
 - ▶ Sectional Loyalty (North vs South)

Political Affiliations Based on Region

- ▶ North
 - ▶ Protestant
 - ▶ Republican
 - ▶ Party of Reform
 - ▶ Women Make Their Way Into Politics

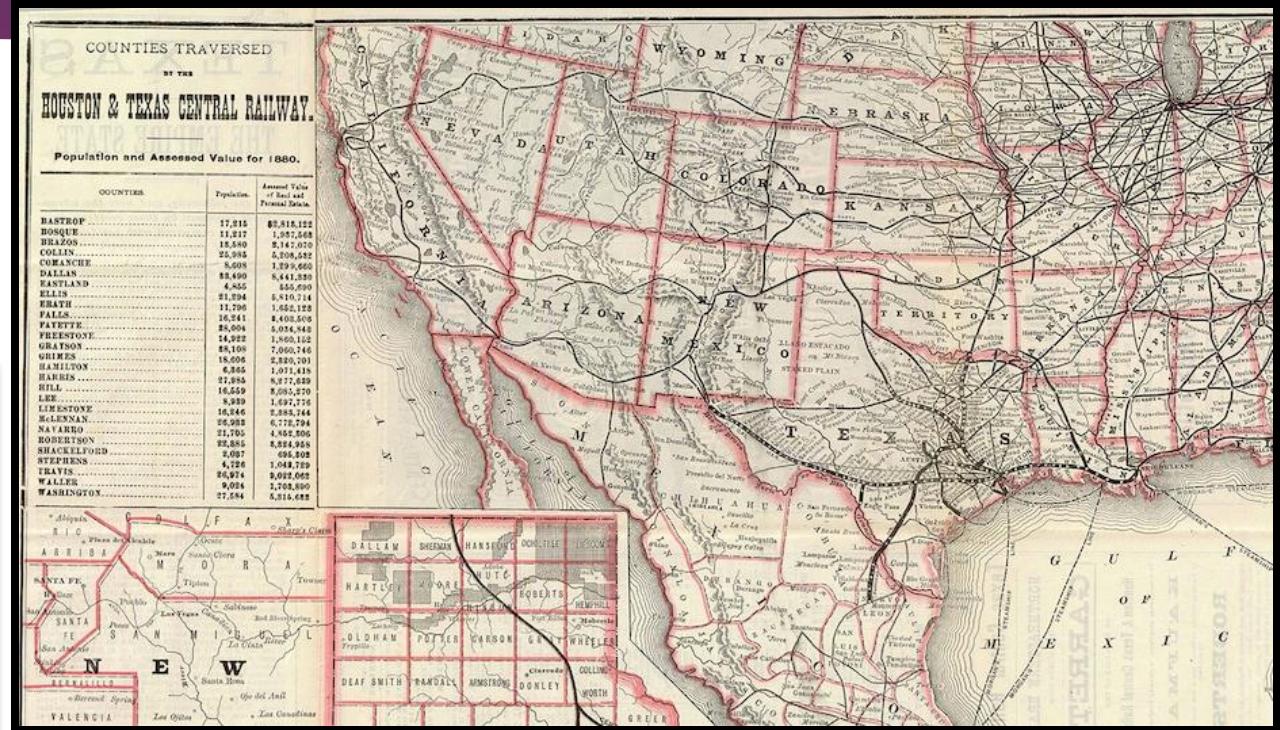
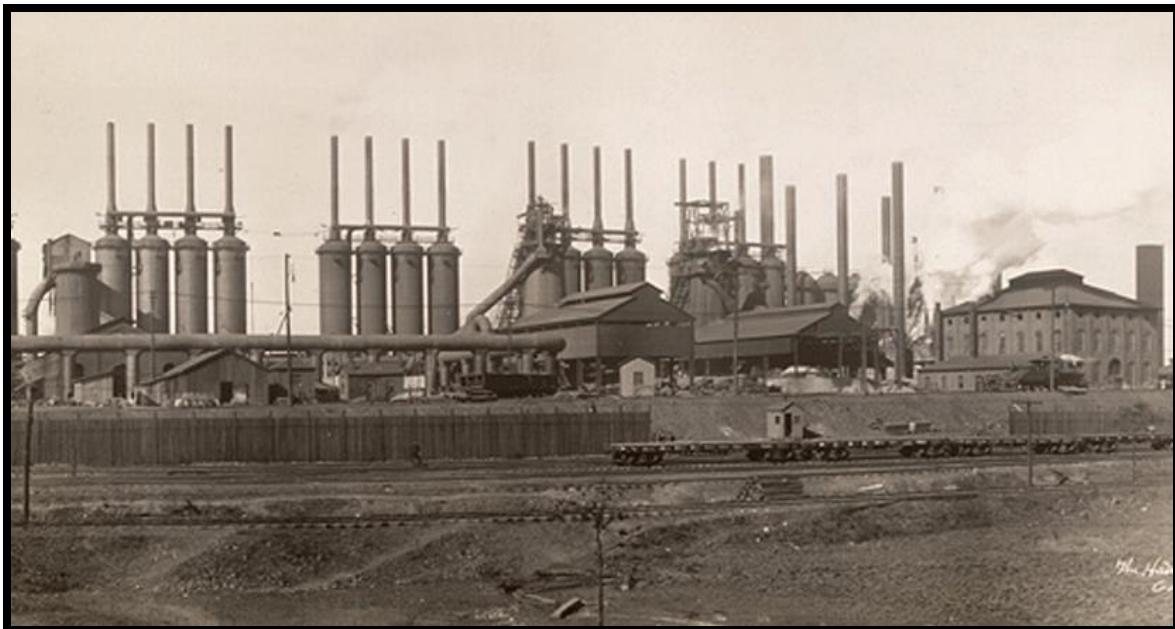
- ▶ Urban
 - ▶ Working Class, Largely Immigrant
 - ▶ Democrats
 - ▶ Catholic & Jewish Voters
 - ▶ Culture Attacked by Protestants

- ▶ South
 - ▶ Democratic (Not as Solid as Believed)



New South's Economy

- ▶ Henry Grady & Atlanta Constitution
- ▶ Railroad Growth
- ▶ Iron & Steel



New South Economy – Textile Industry

- ▶ Textile Mills
- ▶ By 1900:
 - ▶ 100,000 Employees in Textile Mills
 - ▶ 2/3 Women and Children

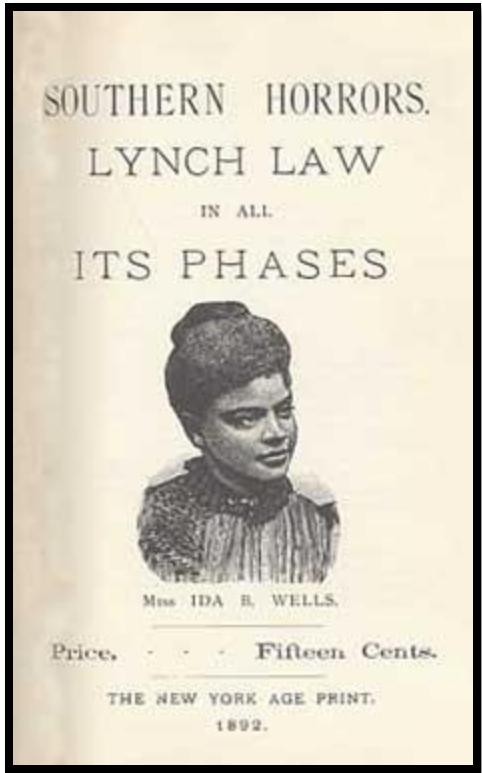


New South Economy - Tobacco

- ▶ Tobacco
- ▶ American Tobacco Co.
- ▶ Sold 400,000 Cigarettes a Day
 - ▶ No more spittoon!



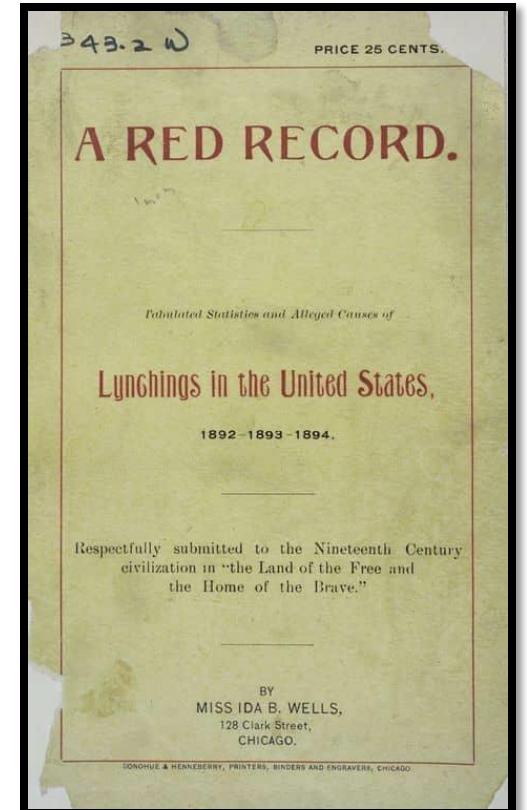
Gender & Race (in the South)



- ▶ Jim Crow South
- ▶ Ida B. Wells
 - ▶ Anti-Lynching Activism
 - ▶ *The Red Record*
 - ▶ NAACP



Ida B. Wells
1862-1931



Gender in the Political Landscape: Suffrage

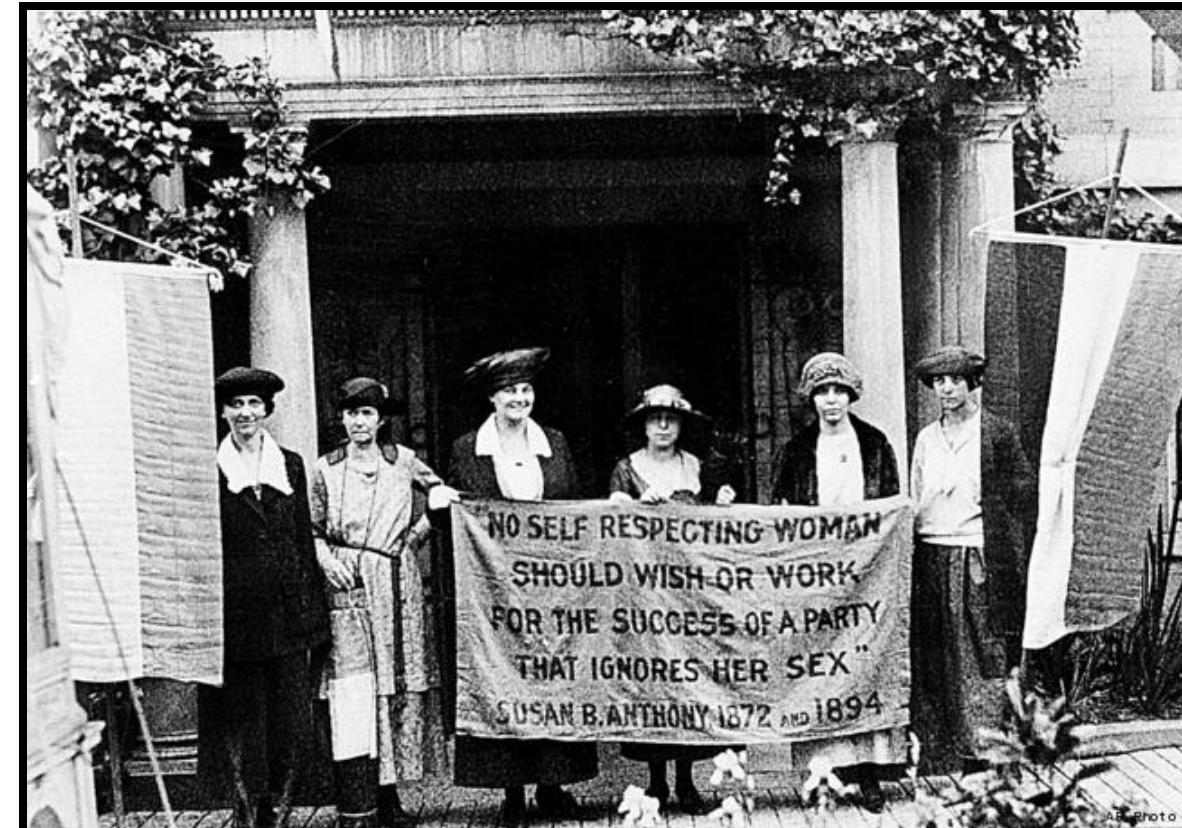
- ▶ National Woman Suffrage Association (NWSA) (1869)
 - ▶ Supported a Constitutional Amendment Allowing Women the Right to Vote
 - ▶ Gendered Justification



Elizabeth Cady Stanton
(1815-1902)



Susan B. Anthony
(1820-1906)



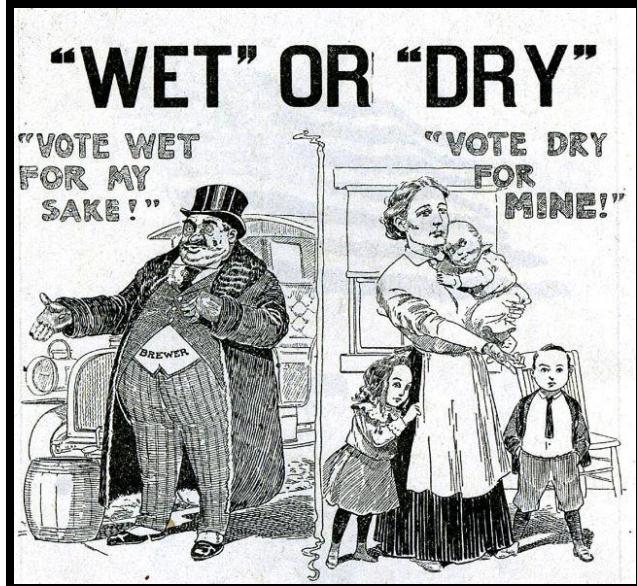
Gender in the Political Landscape: Women's Clubs

- ▶ General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) (1890)
 - ▶ Founded by Jane Cunningham Croly
 - ▶ Purpose: Prohibition
 - ▶ Workday Reform
 - ▶ Child Labor Reform, Workers Rights', 8 Hour Workday



Gender in the Political Landscape: Temperance Movement

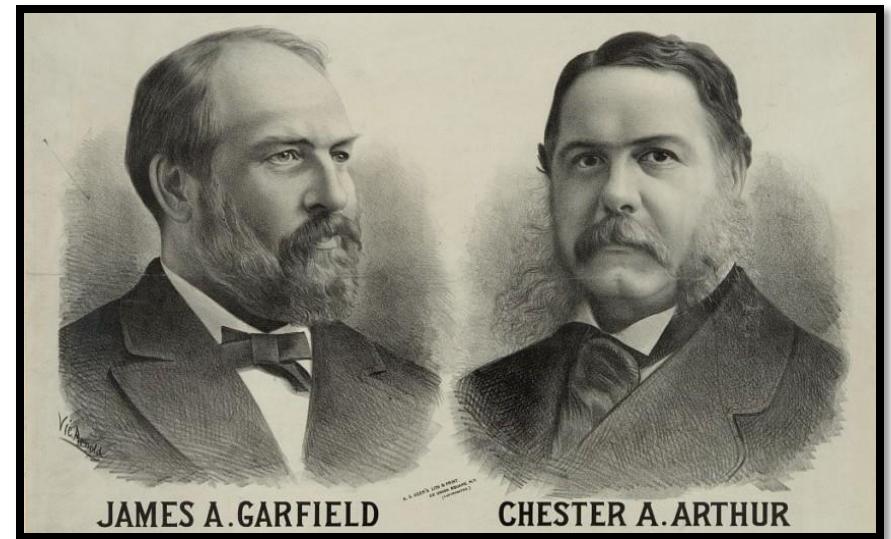
- ▶ Temperance Movement
 - ▶ Women's Christian Temperance Union (WCTU) (1874)



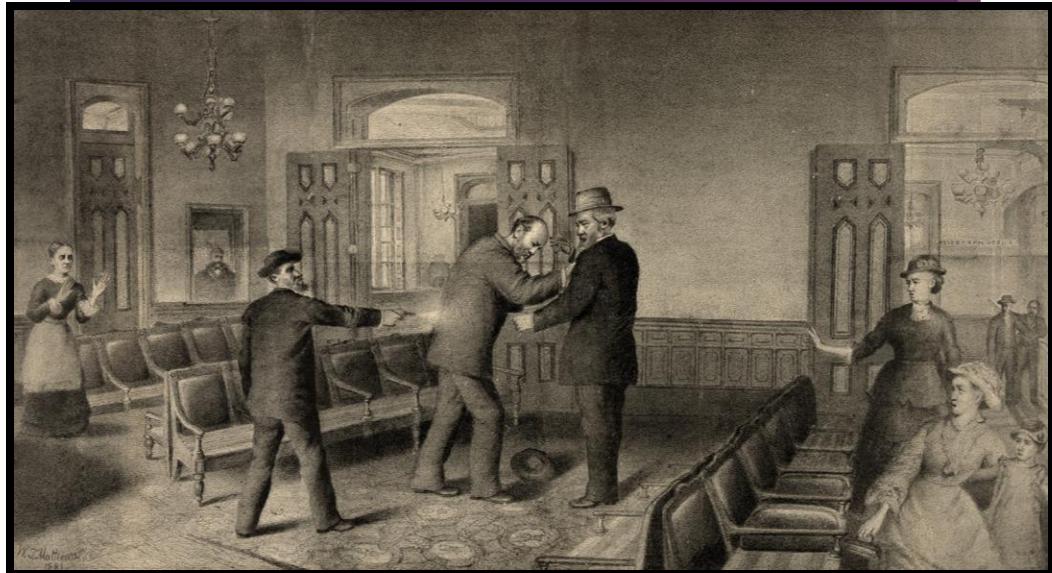
Corruption in Politics



- ▶ Rutherford B. Hayes
- ▶ “Stalwarts” vs. “Half Breeds”
 - ▶ Spoils System
- ▶ Election of 1880



James A. Garfield's Impact



- ▶ President James Garfield
- ▶ Assassinated 1881



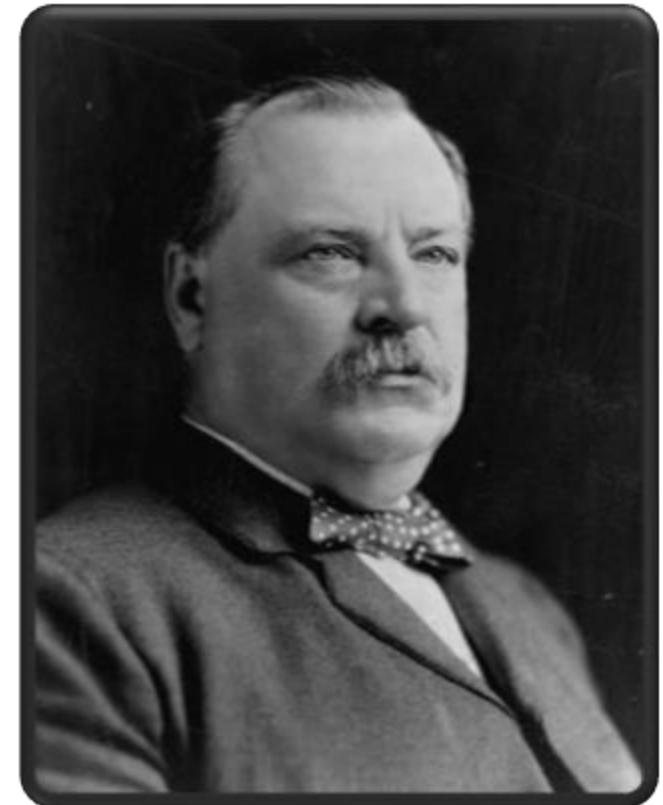
- ▶ Pendleton Civil Service Act of 1883
- ▶ Creation of the Merit System in politics

Presidential Election of 1884



James Blaine
(1830-1893)

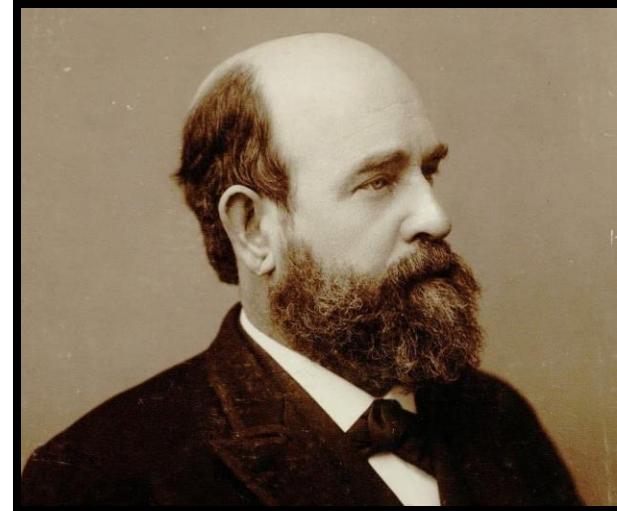
- Grover Cleveland (D) vs. James Blaine (R)
- “Moral Rather Than Political”
 - Scandal for Cleveland
 - Inaction for Blaine
- Results:
 - Cleveland: 219 electoral votes
 - Blaine: 182 electoral votes



Grover Cleveland
(1837-1908)

Henry George & New York

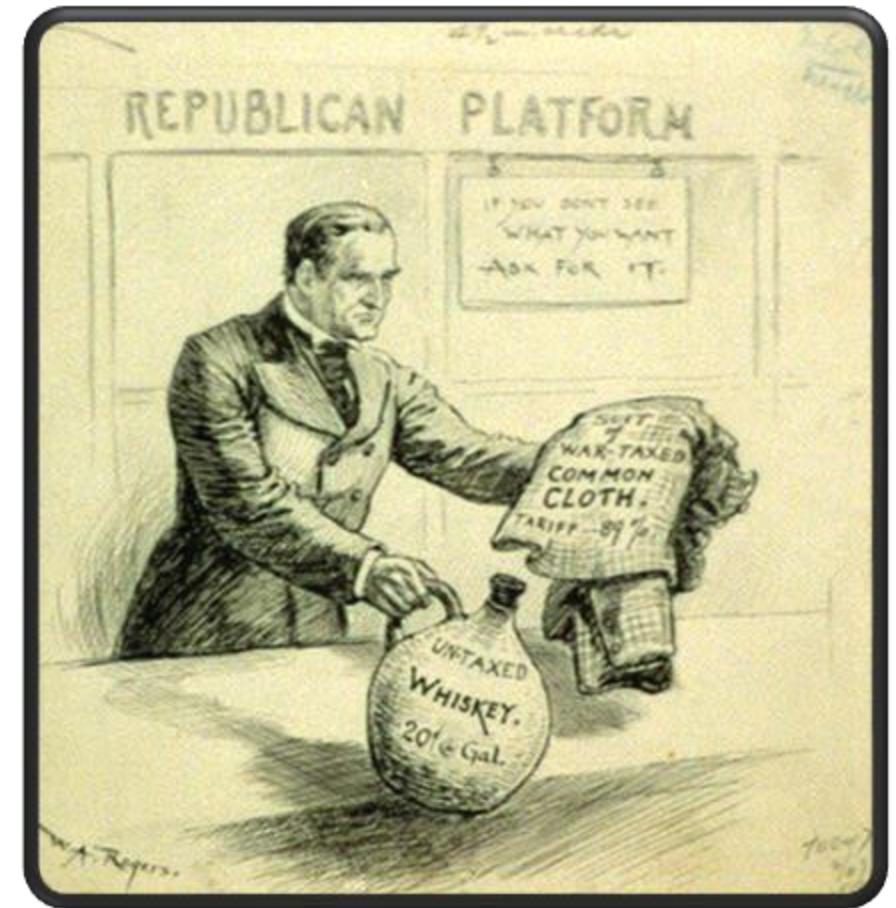
- ▶ Less than 1% of Americans owned 51% of nation's wealth
 - ▶ Labor stood behind Henry George
- ▶ Mayoral Race of 1886
 - ▶ "Monster Parade"
 - ▶ Tammany Hall Influence



"Those who are above the point of separation are elevated but those who are below are crushed down."

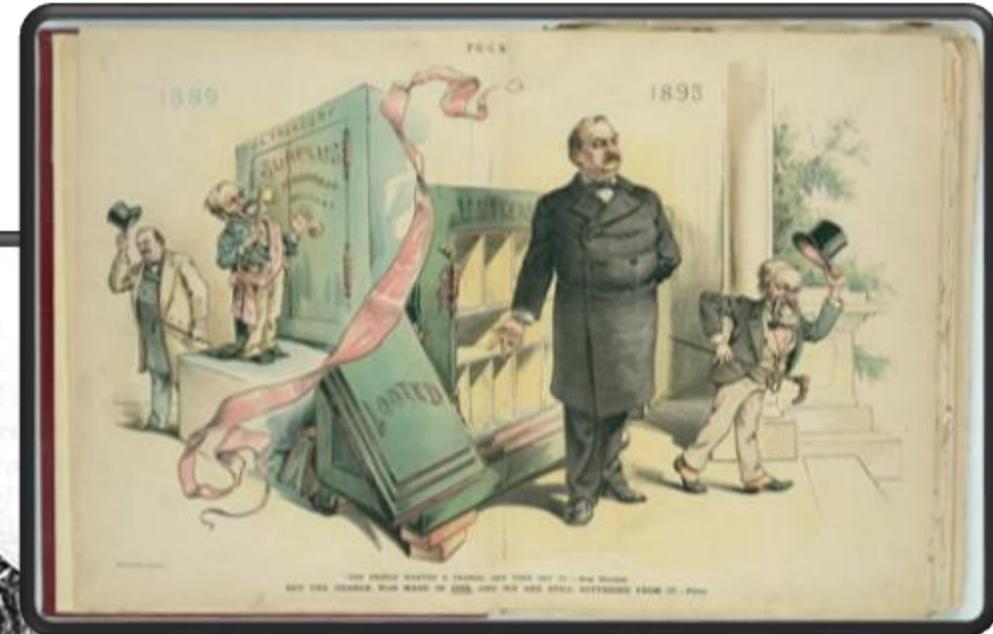
Tariff as Political Issue

- ▶ Who did tariffs negatively impact?
 - ▶ Agriculture (farmers)
 - ▶ South and Midwest
- ▶ Who benefited from tariffs?
 - ▶ Manufactured goods (Big Business)
 - ▶ Pro-business Republicans

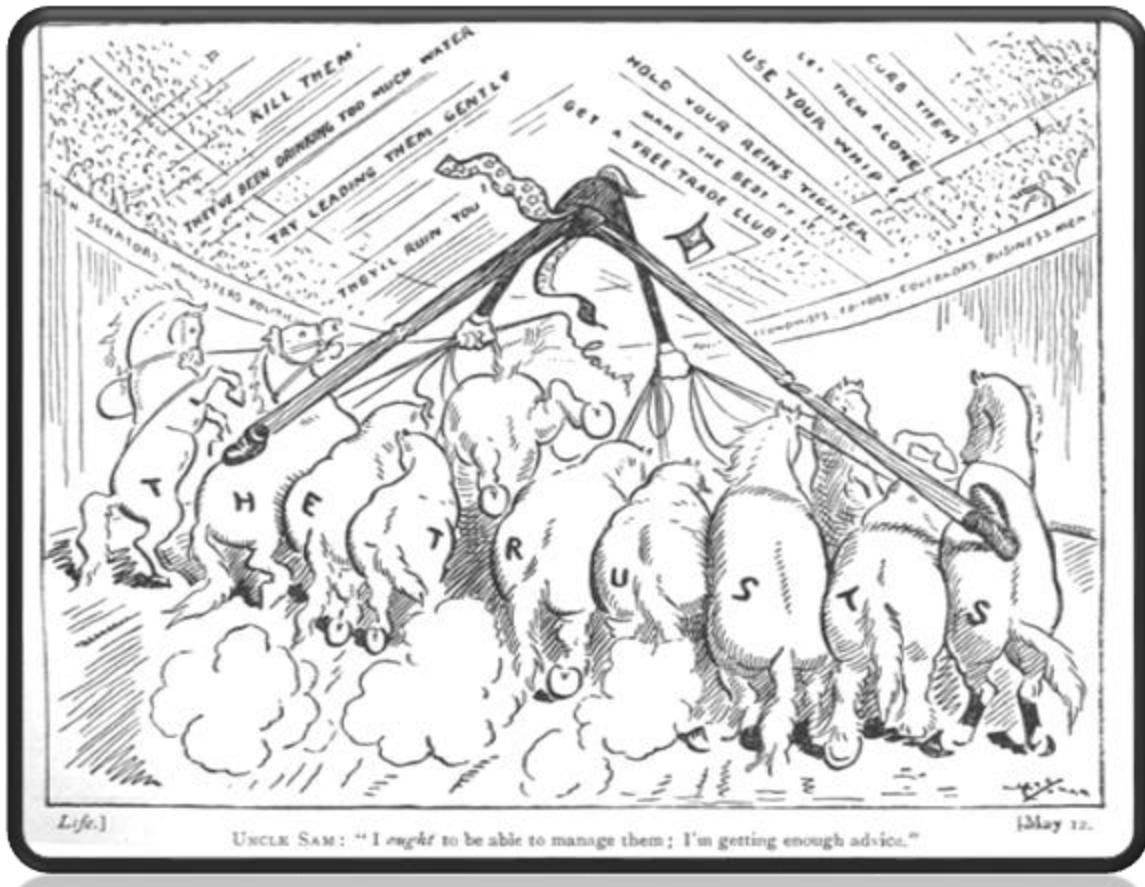


Tariff as a Point of Division

- ▶ Government Response
 - ▶ “Billion Dollar Congress”
- ▶ Voter Response?
 - ▶ Vote them out
- ▶ Represents Division in American Society



Federal Government & Big Business



- ▶ Wabash v. Illinois (1886)
- ▶ Interstate Commerce Act of 1887
 - ▶ Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC)
- ▶ Sherman Antitrust Act (1890)
- ▶ United States vs. E.C. Knight Company (1895)

Free Silver!

► Free Silver Movement

- In Favor: Greenback Labor Party
 - Western Silver Barons
 - Poor Farmers (South & West)

► Results

- Sherman Silver Purchase Plan (1878 & 1890)
- Repealed by Cleveland in 1893



Cost of Gold

Depression of the 1890s

Fear of bankruptcy for U.S.
Treasury

J.P. Morgan to the rescue
(for the gold standard)

Bankers purchase millions in
bonds

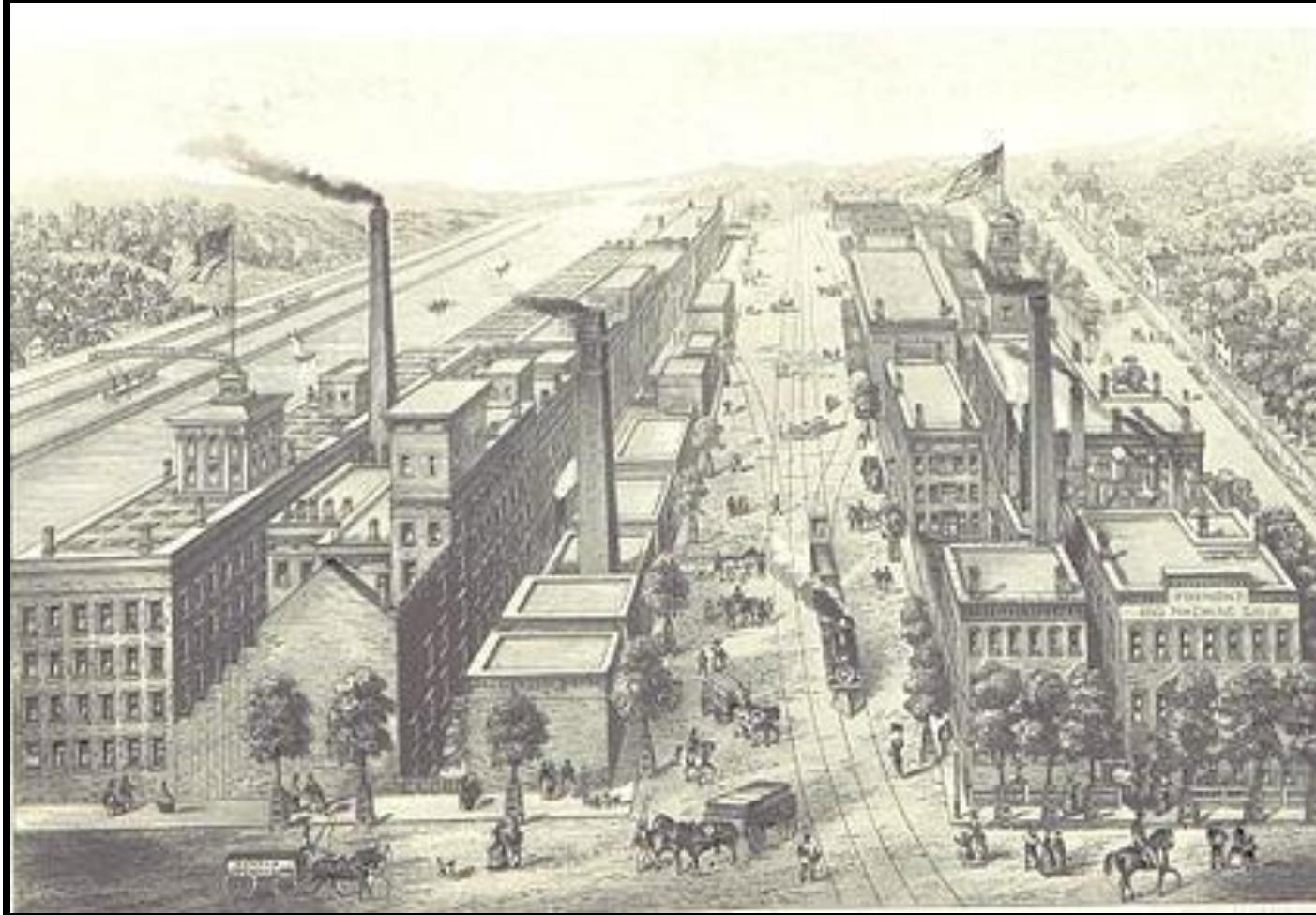
Payment in Gold

Result for the people:

Continued unemployment, cold
and hunger (Winter 1894-1895)



Central Themes



- ▶ Development of the Railroads
- ▶ Social Construct of Social Darwinism
- ▶ Party Politics
- ▶ Economics and Party Realignment