

- The price of railroad travel in the period from 1870 to 1900 declines by 50%
- Impact of new Industrial Revolution in the Gilded Age
  - Caused by ease of transportation
  - Standardization reduces need for skilled labor
    - \* Also makes the skilled laborers more skilled
  - Standard of living goes up
  - By 1880, the average worker cannot support his family
  - Labor is dangerous
    - \* 1 out of 4 injured, 1 out of 400 is killed
    - \* But not as dangerous in the mining industry
      - 1 out of 3 maimed, 1 out of 30 killed
  - In 1890 - A good year - a third of people were unemployed for at least one month
  - On an average year, about a fifth of people are unemployed for around three months
  - Positions created for women to work outside of the household
    - \* Many do
  - Overall, per capita income approximately doubles in terms of what it buys
  - Manufacturing itself grows by about a factor of 6
  - Life expectancy rising
  - Laissez-Faire becomes the standard
  - Average northern income is 1100 dollars per year compared to southern 509.
  - Anaconda trap
  - 1875 - 11 cents per pound for cotton - drops to under 5 shortly
  - Cotton production increases
  - Union military veterans getting pensions
  - Confederate pensions deplete the budgets since South can't pay them
- Henry Grady (1850 - 1889)
  - Gives a speech of the New South
- By 1900, all of the southern textile mills combined are less than a 30 mile radius of Providence, RI
- New south doesn't get very far

- No southern president until Lyndon B Johnson
- Workers form unions
  - Minority of workers are actually part of unions
    - \* Little power
  - Unions support women's suffrage
  - Knights of labor
    - \* Terrence V. Powderly
    - \* Goals
      - Eight-hour workday
      - Workers' cooperatives
      - Worker-owned factories
      - Abolition of child and prison labor
      - Increased circulation of greenbacks
      - Equal pay for men and women
      - Safety codes for the workplace
      - Prohibition of contract foreign labor
      - Abolition of the National Bank
    - \* Win some strikes, but not many
    - \* Haymarket Square
      - Six people killed
- Chinese exclusion act
  - Virtually shuts out all chinese immigration