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Period 2

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`The Myth of the New South

* The dream of the New South was very different to the reality of the New South (Gaston116).
* **Thesis: Designed to lead the region out of poverty, it made converts by the thousands in all parts of the country men who looked forward confidently to a South of abundance. Instead the expectations were unrealized and the South remained the poorest and economically least progressive section of the nation (116-117).**
* There were a lot of plans for success, both regionally and personally, however they went unfulfilled (116).
  + Even though the South got rid of many harmful issues from the war, the reconstruction and the end of the war brought new ones (116).
* Southern spokesman would describe the South as if it was very successful (Gaston 117).
  + They used all the contradictions and turned them into fantasy of successes (117(.
  + Atticus G Haygood said that the South would grow quickly to match the North (117)
    - He said sectionalism would end soon and the South would be reintegrated very quickly (117).
  + Wilbur Fisk Tillet said that the south had grown marvelously in 10 years like no other place anywhere else (117).
  + Henry Grady said that the South was very financially independent (117).
* However there were some who described the South by what it actually was.
  + Walter Hines Page thought that the failures of the south were greater than its successes (Gaston 118).
    - He tried very hard to bring more industrialization in the South in order for the South to be more stable (118).
    - He later tried to increase education in the South to advance the people (118).
    - He was very suspicious of people who said that South was doing really well.
* These spokes people often times confused many citizens into coming to the South and caused them to expect a really well to-do place (Gaston 119).
  + Lewis H. Blair was a former Confederate who was given false hopes for a changed and new South (Gaston 119)..
    - Blair would often read journals, which would provide incorrect numbers on the financial capital and state of the South (119).
    - There were almost no records of failures or bankruptcies and there was only a trend, which appeared to be upward (119).
    - Richard Hathaway Edmonds was one of the editors of the ones of these journals, his was called the Manufacturer’s Record.
* Soon people started to see the reality of the New South (Gaston 121).
  + There were no big businesses that came out of the New South (121).
  + Even the railroad systems were taken by the likes of JP Morgan (121).
  + Most of the Southern products went to the North.
* In the end, the goal of the South to become an economic power like the North was unreasonable, due to the many obstacles and issues still plaguing the South (Gaston 122).