I. Labor Movement

1. Early Movement (Late Nineteenth/Early Twentieth Century)

1. Conditions

a. industrialization

b. urbanization

c. immigration

d. expansion

e. national markets

f. wage dependent labor

i.long hours, 12-16 hour days, six days a week

ii. below subsistence wages

iii. unhealthful and dangerous

iv. child labor

v. abusive

g. social conditions

i. extensive poverty and disease

ii. squalid urban slums

iii. prostitution, drugs, and crime

h. Concentration of Corporate Ownership: “Robber Barons”

2. Goals of Movement

a. forty hour week

b. improved conditions

c. worker control: industrial democracy

3. Actions

a. strikes

b. boycotts

c. sabotage

d. unions: Knights of Labor (9 -500,000)

4. Reaction: power structure

a. corporations

i. firing

ii. strike breakers

iii. lockouts

iv. blacklisting

v. Pinkertons: Frick (Ft. Carnegie)

b. government

i. WWI: Espionage and Seditions Acts

ii. Post-WWI Red Scare (Palmer Raids)

iii. Reformism

iv. National Guard

c. government and corporations: Gospel of Mass Consumption

d. Business unionism: AFL

5. Example: The Great Upheaval (1884-1886)

a. main goal: eight hour day

b. Strikes! 1500 strikes involving 400,000 workers

c. Boycotts! From 1884 to the peak in 1886 hundreds

of boycotts

i. owners called them "un-American"

ii. courts: criminal conspircacy

d. Haymarket Square: 1886

i. events

ii. repression

6. some successes

1. Some regulation of child labor
2. inspection of factories, sweatshops, and

min

1. repsonsibility for employee accidents
2. maximum hours for men, but main goal not achieved

7. Labor and Racism

1. Anti-Immigrant
2. Anti-Chinese Movement

B. The Great Depression

1. Collapse of U.S. economy

2. Unemployment from 500,000 to 4,000,000 in two months,

3. Dustbowl

4. Breadlines, soup kitchens, Hoovervilles, internal migrant population

5. Rebirth of Union

a. emergence of CIO Congress of Industrial Organizations

b. thousands of strikes with tens of thousands of

workers going on strike

i. 1934General Strike in San Francisco -- 130,000 workers, trolley drivers, construction workers, teamsters, bartenders,

ii. Sept 1934, 325,000 textile workers

iii."sit down" strikes, 1936 48, 1937 477: UAW

6. Corporate repression: Republic Steel

7. Power Structure: Compromise

1. minimum wage
2. Social Security Act/Unemployment Insurance

1. Income tax
2. National Labor Relations Act

i.collective bargaining

ii. NLRB

e. Forty hour week +OT

C. Post WWII: Labor in Retreat

1. Cold War: Unions are communist

a. eliminate radical union leaders

b. unions deradicalized

2. Economic boom

1. Corporations and America: GM

b. social contract: unions and labors are partners

c. main issue becomes wages

3. Consumerism

1. new identity

b. consumers first: workers second

4. unions and corruption

1. Labor and Late Twentieth and early twenty first century
   1. Deindustrialization and unions

a. types of jobs

b. organizing the new work place(s)

2. Shared Monopolies

3. Globalization

a. off shoring/outsourcing

b. futility of strikes

4. Government

a. free trade

b. regulation: NLRB

c. rollbacks: 40 week/OT

5. Goals

a. wages

b. sacrificing new workers

c. CFA (California Faculty Association)

1. Strikes

a.shared monopolies

b. universities

B. The Knights of Labor

1. organized in 1869 nine Philadelphia tailors the

Noble and holy Order of the Knights of Labor

2. Secrecy because of firings and blacklisting

3. Positions "We declare an inevitable and irresistible

conflict between the wage system of labor and republican

system of government"

4. U.S. was threatened by monopoly, political corruption,

cutthroat competition, and - wage labor

5. commitment to a broad social group they called the

"procuctive classes"

6. they made a distinction between "productive classes"

and "non-productive" or parasites

7. Women were admitted in 1881, by mid-1890s they were one-tenth

8. Irish-American miners and laborers

9. Unlike other labor organizations admitted African-

Americans, and Mexican-Americans

10. offered a collective alternative to individual advancement held out by capitalism, an alternative

cultural world

11. assembly halls which included a cooperative store

12. recreation, picnics, and parades, singing groups,

theater groups, weekly newspapers

1. Early 20th Century: The IWW ( International Workers of the World)
   1. Response to:
      1. monopoly capitalism
      2. Taylorism

i. reduction of labor to simplest tasks

ii. scientific measurement

c. Company unions and AFL

* 1. Revolutionary union
     1. all inclusive

b. goal: control of economy (industria democracy)

c. means: direct action (include strikes, boycotts, general strikes)

d. Leaders: Bill Haywood and Eugene

Debs, and Mother Mary Jones

"the IWW was the most egalitarian labor orgainzation in American history, organizing skilled and unskilled, men and women, blacks and Mexicans, andin a break with tradition, Chinese and Japanese workers.

* 1. Government repression
     1. small orgainization but a powerful idea

b. arrested for speaking, no free speech

4. American Woolen Company in Lawrence, Mass

1. immigrant workers
2. wooden tenements: crowded, unsanitary, flammable

1. wages $8.76 a week
2. labor force: young women between 14 and 18

"A considerable number of the boys and girls die within the first two or threee years after beginning work . . . thirty-six out of every 100 ao all men and women who workd in the mill die beffore or by the time they are twenty-five years of age."

1. Jan cut back in pay
2. Job action: 10,000

5. IWW leaders to conduct strike

a. committee of 50 from all nationalities

b. soup kitchen to feed 50,000

c. financial support from all over the country

6. Government response

1. mayor the local militia
2. governor the state police
3. parade attacked by the police and

a female striker killed

d. arrest strikers Joseph Ettor and Arturo Giovanni

e. Martial law, 22 cos of militia, 2 troops of cavalry,

citizens forbidden to talk on streets

7. workers: mass picketing, 7000 to 10,000

8. children

a. hungry

b. four out of 119 had underwear, their outerwear was

in rags, their coats torn to shreds."

c. send to supporters in other cities

9. City officials forbid this, police attacked parents and

children, nice irony

10. finally American Woolen co gave in, no showing

on PBS of Lost Eden

11. Consequences of labor movement

a. Socialist party in the U.S.

i. formed in 1901

ii.73 mayoral seats and 1200 lesser offices in 340 cities

b. union membership increased

c. strikes during the war

d. Government Repression

i. WWI Espionage and Sedition Acts

ii. Red Scare and Palmer Raids