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Chapter 9

**Directions**: answer the following questions completely. No answer should be one word or sentence. Use the who, what, when, where, why, and how as a guide to answering the questions.

1. **Discuss how the Erie Canal transformed the economy of New York?** The Erie Canal transformed the economy of New York since it increased the efficiency and lowered the cost of transporting goods across New York. Also, the man-made waterway made transporting items much, much faster than the other forms of transportation at the time. The Erie Canal, made in 1825, connected the Hudson River to Lake Erie and had fueled an economic boom. Furthermore, it allowed for factories to be made near the canal to benefit from the fast transport and use the water to generate power. New York was turned into a economical commerce and was made into a trading hotspot. Moreover, the Erie Canal had a population spike in western New York because of the convenient water source for businesses to grow on, and it had opened areas in the west to get resources and get money.
2. **Discuss the inventions that economically and socially improved the country?** The inventions that economically improved the United States were canals, turnpikes, steam engines, railroads, and the cotton gin. The canals, turnpikes, railroads, and steam engines allowed for faster and cheaper transportation of goods across the developing United States. Steam engines were faster than any other transportation at the time, and with the help of canals, such as the Erie Canal, that connected Lake Erie to the Hudson River, the steam engines could propel goods much faster than ships. The Erie Canal caused cities to settle near its stream to benefit from the energy generated by the rapid water and for convenience when transporting goods. The explosion in trade in the cities near the Erie Canal helped the industry and the economy of the United States. Railroads and turnpikes helped to transport goods over land more efficiently, and turnpikes helped to fund more roads to be built in the future. The cotton gin would help with the cotton industry, where it did a great job separating cotton seeds from cotton at a very fast rate. This led to a demand for slavery and a reason to expand cotton plantations. Besides, the telegraph and morse code socially improved the United States because it had helped to improve communication across far distances. It allowed people and businesses to communicate at a quick pace compared to message by ship or horseback.
3. **Explain how the explosive growth of industry changed America.** The explosive growth of industry changed America because it led to the explosive growth of urbanization and cities. The amount of industrialization happening also led to new technologies to be made and new forms of transport emerged. Faster modes of transportation enabled goods to be transported much faster with less cost and more efficiency. For example, better roads, railroads, steamboats, and canals were developed and these inventions boosted the United States industry. Industrialization strengthened the United States economy through its massive manufacturing and shipment of goods. The growth of industry also led to more opportunities and jobs for people, which led to an increase in population in America. Cities had to expand to accommodate for the population growth. Overall, the explosive growth of industry improved technology, made the population of the United States increase, make economy better, and helped establish better working conditions for workers. As the number of workers grew, the more of them realized how terrible their working conditions were and purposed strikes. This led to the government taking action and forming labor unions.
4. **Explain the connection between industrialization and urbanization.** The connection between industrialization and urbanization is that most industrialization occurs in urban areas. When industries and factories are established in the cities, immigrants and people flock to these cities to get a job for money. In all, industrialization led to urbanization by creating job opportunities and economic growth. With the population of cities increasing, cities would have to expand themselves. Urbanization occurs when people move to manufacturing cities to look for jobs. Industrialization has to occur before urbanization happens.
5. **Describe the change in immigration by the mid-nineteenth century.** Immigration in the mid-nineteenth century changed because of the millions of European immigrants who were coming into the United States to escape their home country. For instance, the Irish had to leave Ireland because of the Great Potato Famine, and the Germans left Germany because of the failed revolution and government. Essentially, the primary reason why immigrants left their country and go to America was to find a better life, escape persecution and find opportunities. The Great Potato Famine killed thousands of Irish because potatoes were the main food source and now that they couldn’t grow, they didn’t have anything else to eat. In addition, many immigrants moved to America to take advantage of the factory jobs in America. Eventually, the California Gold Rush would begin, and thousands of foreigners ran to America to strike gold and become rich. The immigrations in America rapidly increased during the mid-nineteenth century.
6. **Discuss the reasons why early labor unions emerged?** Early labor unions emerged because of the terrible working conditions of the factory workers and of the bad working policies everywhere in the United States. The factory workers were working in hazardous, unregulated areas that held dangerous machines. The workers had to work 12 hours a day with little pay. Moreover, many workers died or got harmed while working and the factories did not do anything about this. Due to the bad working conditions, workers organized strikes, which brought the attention of the national government. At the time, the government was following the laissez-faire policy, where the government did not interfere with the economy or businesses. The government had to interfere with the businesses and established labor unions to keep the American economy stable. If labor unions weren’t made, then nobody would continue to work in the factories due to the bad working conditions, which meant the economy would dwindle. Labor unions emerged to help with the bad working conditions and the injustices of the factory owners. Furthermore, labor unions would help with reaching a standard wage for workers and how many hours an individual could work, along with putting breaks in between of shifts. Practically, the main reason to why labor unions emerged was because of the terrible working conditions the factory workers had to deal with.
7. Identify each of the following and their **significance**:
   1. **Conestoga wagons –** Conestoga wagons are large, broad, and covered wagons dragged by horses that were used to transport families and luggage made by the Germans in Pennsylvania. These big horse-drawn wagons were to go west in search of land and wealth on the American trails during the Transportation Revolution and Market Revolution during the late 18th and early 19th century. The Conestoga wagons were not very efficient or effective when it came to transporting goods long distances. Other transportation systems such as railroad systems, steamboats and other land vehicles were cheaper and more efficient to use for transportation. The main use of the Conestoga wagons was to carry families and their items to the west to claim land and start a new life. The Conestoga wagons are important to the history of the United States because it helped many families to head West and encouraged the idea of manifesting destiny. These wagons gave Americans a reliable way to transport many items.
   2. **Turnpikes –** Turnpikes were very important to transportation in the American system. They were toll roads that were owned by the state, private companies, and locals to fund for the creation of new roads and advanced transportation. This meant travelers had to pay a fee to use the roads. The turnpikes aided the travel of stagecoaches and wagons in America. Furthermore, turnpikes helped with trade since it increased the efficiency of land vehicles. Eventually, people and groups would band together to help expand these roads, using the money from the tolls. By the 1830s, states had more than 900 companies to build and fund the roads. Turnpikes helped to boost the Market Revolution by providing an efficient way to transport goods and also, helped further develop the transport industry.
   3. **Samuel F.B. Morse –** Samuel F.B. Morse is an American inventor and painter. Although he was an excellent painter and drew many fine portraits, he was more known for his invention of the telegraph in 1830. The telegraph was a groundbreaking invention as it greatly improved communication in the United States. It had improved the speed of messages being sent at long distances. With the invention of the telegraph, communication wouldn’t take weeks or even months to get sent, since the speed of how fast a message was sent depended on the speed of the ship or horse. This fast communication speed was very important and useful in business because it allowed for quick communication amongst businesses. Furthermore, Samuel F.B. Morse developed Morse Code. The telegraph sent pulses of electrical currents through a wire and communication was made through how long those pulses were. A short pulse was a dot, and a long pulse was a dash. Morse code would be used to communicate when using the telegraph.
   4. **Eli Whitney –** Eli Whitney is known for inventing the cotton gin in 1793. The purpose of the cotton gin was to separate seeds from the cotton more efficiently. The cotton gin separated cotton way faster than a worker or slave could. This speed was revolutionary because no one has ever seen cotton get separated this fast before, since you would get cut from separating the seeds from the cotton. Overall, the cotton gin greatly sped up the time it took to remove seeds from the cotton fiber. The invention of the cotton gin allowed slavery to become more profitable. The industrial workers thought more labor meant more money, so the demand for slavery grew. Cotton would become America’s largest import in the 19th century and Whitney would be considered a pioneer of American manufacturing and industrializing.
   5. **California Gold Rush –** The California Gold Rush was the era when people began to discover gold on the west coast. This sparked many immigrants and people to move to the west coast, specifically California, to strike gold and become rich. A large variety of people moved to California in search of gold, which included women, Germans, Chinese, Americans, and much more. The Gold Rush would give many the opportunity to establish themselves in the American hierarchy and society. People who went to California looking for gold were known as the Forty-Niners. The California Gold Rush was important in America because it increased the population of the United States and developed mining tools to accelerate the process of getting gold. Furthermore, the California Gold Rush had a massive impact on the economy of America since due to the stimulation of wealth. Towns would be established to try to find gold, and this led to government systems and laws to be made. Eventually, the state of California was created in 1850.
   6. **Cult of domesticity –** The Cult of Domesticity had tried to define and identity the gender roles in the 19th century through limiting women to their own sphere of influence during this time. The Cult of Domesticity represented new ideas of womanhood, which involved the role of women in the home, family, and work. The Cult of Domesticity was considered the standard woman routine or the way a women should be. There were regulations and restrictions to what a women could not do and could do. Women should have four values, which were submissiveness, piety, purity, and domesticity. The importance of the Cult of Domesticity was that it impacted the married female workers in the work force in the 19th century. According to the Cult of Domesticity, true women were supposed to avoid paid activities and are only supposed to do unpaid domestic labor.
   7. **Nativism –** Nativism is the support of people who were born in the United States and inhabitants of the United States. Nativism discriminated against newcomers and immigrants who came into the nation. Americans were afraid and threatened by the jobs that the immigrants were taking from them. All of the diversity, the different culture had scared the Americans. The cause of the new immigrants coming to America was the abundance of factory jobs available. Immigrants like the Irish and Germans came to America for jobs and to start a fresh, new life. The Irish left their nation of Ireland because of the Great Potato Famine, while Germans left Germany because of the economy and government. Nativism added another problem to the many other struggles that immigrants had to deal with. The significance of Nativism was that it generated hatred towards immigrants, especially the Irish and Germans, and many stereotypes would be made. There would be social tension between the immigrants and the established American residents.
   8. **Know Nothing party –** The Know-Nothing party was a political party in America that started in the 1840s. This party was made up of people who thought the immigrants should not be granted or allowed American citizenship. The party wanted to make the lives of the immigrants hard and refused to help immigrants coming to the country. Furthermore, the Know-Nothing party opposed the Catholics. The importance of the Know-Nothing party was the impact it left on the reputation of immigrants and sparked a religion war. Their purpose was to limit Catholic influence and immigration. Furthermore, they would become a strong figure in the American government and were involved in state governments like New York and Massachusetts.
8. **Explain why “the age of Jacksonian democracy” is an ironic name for this period?** The Age of the Jacksonian Democracy is an ironic name for this period because there was an imbalance between the social hierarchy, immigrants, and ethnicities. The Nativism going on in America during this period discriminated the immigrants and did not give foreigners equal rights. There was definitely inequality amongst the Americans, as the factory owners would have almost all of the wealth in cities, which meant they could virtually do anything that they wanted. Furthermore, with his wealth and power, the factory owners could bribe other businesses and the government, exploit their workers, and continue to earn a ridiculous amount of wealth. Furthermore, the Jacksonian Democracy Era had ignored the rights of non-whites and the rights of women. Which meant that it wasn’t really a democracy since it didn’t allow all of the people a right in the government or authority in voting. The Age of Jacksonian Democracy was a very ironic name for this period because of the gap in wealth between the factory owners and all other Americans. The immigrants would be very, very poor and the government made it much more difficult for these immigrants to live in America. The Jacksonian Democracy wasn’t at all a democracy and that is ironic, as it only favored the rich white men.