



Summary

TELESCOPING THE TIMES *Reconstruction and Its Effects*

CHAPTER OVERVIEW As Congress enacts a policy of punishing the South for the Civil War, African Americans struggle to establish new lives. Eventually, the North tires of Reconstruction, and Southern whites regain control over the states.

1 The Politics of Reconstruction

KEY IDEA Presidents Lincoln and Johnson face opposition to their Reconstruction plans. Congress wins control, and Radical Reconstruction begins.

Reconstruction refers to the period from 1865 to 1877, when the country rebuilt from war and the federal government determined how the Southern states were to reenter the Union. Lincoln wanted the Southern states to rejoin quickly. His plan readmitted a state once 10 percent of voters took an oath of allegiance. He also promised to pardon most former Confederates.

Four states applied for readmission under this plan, but Radical Republicans in Congress blocked them. They wanted to deny power to former slave owners and to give the right to vote to African Americans. They passed a more severe bill in 1864, but Lincoln vetoed it.

After Lincoln was killed, Andrew Johnson of Tennessee became president. His Reconstruction policy was also lenient. Among provisions, a state had to declare secession illegal and ratify the Thirteenth Amendment abolishing slavery. Many Southern states met these terms, and in December 1865, new Southern members of Congress arrived in Washington.

The Radicals—outraged because many of these members had served in the Confederate government or fought in its armies—refused to seat the new members. Congress passed a law extending the Freedmen's Bureau, which had been created to help former slaves adjust to a new life. It also passed a civil rights bill. This law made African Americans citizens and banned the black codes. The codes were new Southern laws that restricted African Americans' freedom.

Johnson, feeling the two bills made the federal government too powerful, vetoed both. Congress voted to override the veto. It also passed the Fourteenth Amendment, which confirmed African Americans citizenship and barred most former Confederate leaders from political office. Johnson,

thinking the bill too punishing, angered Congress again by urging Southern states not to approve the amendment.

In the 1866 congressional elections, Johnson campaigned against the Radicals. His harsh words angered many Northern voters, as did race riots in the South that left many African Americans dead. The freed slaves needed the federal government, many thought. The Radicals won an overwhelming victory, gaining enough seats to override any presidential veto.

In 1867, the new Congress passed the Reconstruction Act. It declared the reorganized state governments invalid, put the Southern states under military control, and called for new state constitutions. Those new state laws had to give African Americans the right to vote.

The next year, the conflict between president and Congress reached a head. The House of Representatives voted to impeach President Johnson. If the Senate found him guilty, he would be removed from office. After an eleven-week trial, the Senate did not find him guilty.

That fall, Ulysses S. Grant won the presidential election with overwhelming support from African American voters in the South. Congress then passed the Fifteenth Amendment, which outlawed the denial of voting rights due to race.

2 Reconstructing Society

KEY IDEA After the war, the South faces the problem of rebuilding its economy. African Americans begin to exercise freedoms denied to them in slavery.

The Southern states wrote new constitutions, and by 1870 all were back in the Union under the Radicals' terms. The war had destroyed the population and economy of the region, however. The new state governments undertook ambitious rebuilding programs and instituted the first public school systems in many Southern states. They had to raise taxes and borrow money to fund these programs.

Three groups made up the Republican party in the South. Scalawags—white Southerners who joined the party—were mostly former Unionists. Carpetbaggers were Northerners who moved South after the war to reform Southern society or to make a fortune. The third group was African Americans eager to vote. Most white Southerners disliked the new governments. They resented Northern attitudes and could not accept equality for African Americans.

African Americans worked hard to improve their lives. Many sought husbands or wives who had been sold elsewhere in the South. Once reunited, they married and raised their families. Thousands—of all ages—sought an education in newly established schools. Many joined churches and volunteer groups to better African American society. Some joined the new state governments, and more than a dozen served in the U.S. Congress.

Economic changes were harder to enact, however. Congress debated whether to break up the plantations and give land to the freed slaves, but most members were unwilling to overturn the right to property. Southern planters forced black workers to sign labor contracts, but neither white landowners nor black workers liked the system. African Americans thought the wages too low. Planters lacked the cash to pay workers.

They created two optional plans. In sharecropping, planters gave small plots of land to workers—black and white—in return for a share of the crop. In tenant farming, laborers rented land. Both systems faced a new reality of Southern agriculture: world demand for Southern cotton—and thus the price of cotton—had fallen.

● The Collapse of Reconstruction

KEY IDEA *Continued opposition to Radical Reconstruction in the South and economic problems in the North bring the Reconstruction process to an end.*

Some white Southerners formed groups that tortured and murdered former slaves. The most famous of these groups was the Ku Klux Klan. Between 1868 and 1871, the Klan killed several thousand people—including whites who helped African Americans. Some Klan leaders tried to stop the violence, but it continued. In the mid-1870s, Klan violence prevented African Americans from voting and returned Democrats to power in several

Southern states. Congress took action with laws in 1870 and 1871 to try to suppress the Klan. Other laws, however, weakened the Republican Party in the South.

Meanwhile, the Grant administration was plagued by scandal. Though Grant never engaged in any corruption, some of his appointees did, including his first vice-president; private secretary; and the secretaries of war, navy, and interior. In 1872, the Republican Party splintered. Reform-minded members chose newspaper editor Horace Greeley to run for president. Though the Democrats also backed Greeley, Grant won.

A financial panic in 1873 upset the country further. Many banks closed, and a depression followed. People argued about whether or not to stop using paper money. The debate took attention away from Reconstruction.

By the mid-1870s, Northern desire to maintain Reconstruction was low. At the same time, Supreme Court decisions had weakened the power of the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments. Sentiment in the North grew to reconcile the two sections of the country. A disputed election then helped Democrats regain control of Southern state governments.

In the 1876 presidential election, Democrat Samuel J. Tilden finished one electoral vote short of victory. Congress appointed a commission to settle disputed electoral votes. The commission chose Republican Rutherford B. Hayes after Hayes made a deal with Southern Democrats to end Reconstruction. Upon taking office, Hayes pulled federal troops out of the South. Democrats, called Redeemers, now controlled every Southern state government.

Reconstruction had failed to secure equality for African Americans. The Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments remained part of the Constitution, however. In later years, they were used to protect African Americans' rights.

Review

1. What were Lincoln's and Johnson's plans for Reconstruction?
2. What groups were important in the South during Reconstruction?
3. How did African Americans change during Reconstruction?
4. What factors led to the end of Reconstruction?



Summary

TELESCOPING THE TIMES *The Industrial Age*

CHAPTER OVERVIEW *Technological innovations and the growth of the railroad industry help fuel an industrial boom. Some business leaders follow corrupt practices, and workers, suffering harsh working conditions, try to organize.*

1 The Expansion of Industry

KEY IDEA *Industry booms as natural resources, creative ideas, and growing markets fuel technological development.*

As settlement continued in the West, the nation was being transformed by vast changes in technology. Fuel—in the form of kerosene refined from oil or coal—helped spur growth. So did plentiful supplies of iron. Iron became even more useful when the Bessemer process, developed about 1850, allowed workers to efficiently turn it into steel. With the open-hearth method, devised in 1886, even more steel was produced.

Steel came to be used in railroads, in farm tools such as the plow and reaper, and to make cans for preserving food. Engineers also used steel to make the new bridge connecting New York City and Brooklyn and to build skyscrapers.

Thomas Alva Edison established a research laboratory in 1876 in order to develop new inventions. He devised an incandescent light and began to organize power plants to generate electricity. Cities built electric railways, and businesses built factories powered by electricity.

The typewriter (1867) and the telephone (1876) appeared for the first time. These and other inventions changed daily life. More women began to work in offices; by 1910, women were about 40 percent of the clerical work force. The average work week decreased by about ten hours, and people enjoyed more leisure time.

2 The Age of the Railroads

KEY IDEA *The growth and consolidation of railroads benefits the nation but leads to corruption and regulation.*

By 1890, rail lines totaled more than 200,000 miles. But building and running the railroads was difficult and dangerous work for thousands of workers. By 1888, more than 2,000 railroad workers had died and another 20,000 had been injured. Workers earned very little—and Asians and African Americans less than white workers.

The railroads helped link the regions of the nation. Schedules were difficult to maintain, however, as each community set its own time standard. So, in 1883, the railroads and many towns began using four standard time zones.

Railroads stimulated growth of the iron, steel, coal, lumber, and glass industries. They also helped towns and cities grow. George Pullman had invented a railroad sleeping car. As demand for his car rose, he built a large town south of Chicago to house the workers he needed. While the housing was of good quality, Pullman tried to control his workers' lives, which they disliked.

Some business practices led to corruption. In the Crédit Mobilier scandal of 1868, some officers of the Union Pacific used trickery to earn millions for themselves. They also gave stock to some government officials to buy silence.

These scandals helped fuel the anger of the Grangers, farmers who wanted to limit rail companies' power. They persuaded some states to pass laws regulating railroad rates. In 1877, the Supreme Court said government could regulate industry for the public good. Congress passed the Interstate Commerce Act in 1887, but the commission it created was not strong enough to control the railroads.

The depression of 1893 and 1894 changed the industry. Many railroads failed, and a few survivors seized many of the rest. By 1900, seven companies owned most of the nation's railways.

3 Big Business Emerges

KEY IDEA *The expansion of industry in the North results in the growth of big business and a new social philosophy.*

Consolidation occurred in other industries as well. Andrew Carnegie built a giant steel-producing firm. Carnegie used cost-saving technology, strict accounting, and effective managers. He bought out competitors and companies that provided raw materials or transportation of his goods.

The success of business leaders like Carnegie helped spur an intellectual movement called Social Darwinism. Drawing on Charles Darwin's ideas of evolution, Social Darwinism said that government should allow free competition in business to allow the best individuals to succeed. Most ordinary citizens could support this idea. It appealed to their work ethic and sense of personal responsibility.

Business leaders tried to gain control over an industry to ensure rising profits. Some used mergers to acquire other companies. If a firm controlled all the competition in an industry, it held a monopoly and could dictate business practices. J. P. Morgan became the largest steel producer by setting up a holding company. This kind of company bought out the stock of other companies. John D. Rockefeller controlled the oil refining industry by using trusts, in which different companies agreed to work together. Critics called such practices unfair to consumers and labeled business leaders as "robber barons."

In 1890, Congress decided to act and passed the Sherman Antitrust Act. It outlawed trusts, but the law was difficult to enforce, and the Supreme Court did not support it.

While industry boomed in the North, the South stayed agriculturally and economically depressed. Only industries such as mining, tobacco, and textiles grew. The devastation of the Civil War, lack of capital, and lack of cities contributed.

🔗 Workers of the Nation Unite

KEY IDEA Laborers form unions to better their working conditions and pay. Despite some success, they lose ground against government-supported business interests.

Workers in these growing industries worked long hours in dangerous conditions for low wages. Wages were so low that all family members, including women and children, had to work. To improve their status, many workers began to organize into unions.

The National Labor Union, formed in 1866, persuaded the government to adopt an eight-hour day in government offices. The Knights of Labor pushed for an eight-hour day and equal pay for

women. The American Federation of Labor (AFL) won higher wages and shorter work weeks for its members, skilled workers. Other unions organized unskilled workers. Some included women and African Americans. Japanese and Mexican workers also formed unions in the West.

Labor then had many setbacks. A great strike in 1877 stalled the nation's railroads for a week. Some cities erupted in riots. President Rutherford B. Hayes ordered the strikers to return to work. Labor organizers continued to try to enlist workers. Then a mass meeting in Chicago's Haymarket section became a riotous battle between police and workers. Steelworkers in Homestead, Pennsylvania, shut a Carnegie Steel plant until state troops allowed management to reopen the mill with strikebreakers. The strike continued, but eventually the strikers had to give in. A strike at Pullman's railcar factory in 1894 also resulted in violence and federal troops being brought in. The workers all lost their jobs.

Women labor organizers included Mary Harris "Mother" Jones and Pauline Newman, who organized garment workers. In 1911, a fire broke out in a clothing factory. Almost 150 women workers died, in part because they had been locked inside. The public was outraged and some reforms favoring workers were passed.

Business leaders used many tactics to prevent workers from organizing. They banned union meetings or fired union workers. When strikes did occur, some asked the courts to end them, saying that they violated the Sherman Antitrust Act by harming interstate commerce. By 1910, union membership was down to five percent of workers.

Review

1. What developments fueled industrialization?
2. Describe the growth and development of the rail industry and what impact it had.
3. How did the government try to regulate business? What happened to these efforts?
4. Describe working conditions of the time and union-management relations.



Summary

TELESCOPING THE TIMES

Immigrants and Urbanization

CHAPTER OVERVIEW *The population rises as immigrants supply a willing workforce for urban industrialization and a political base for many urban politicians. Abuses in local and national government prompt calls for reform.*

1 The New Immigrants

KEY IDEA *New immigrants from southern and eastern Europe, Asia, the Caribbean, and Mexico face culture shock, prejudice, and opportunity in the United States.*

Between 1870 and 1920, about 20 million Europeans immigrated to the United States. Many of them came from eastern and southern Europe, which had not provided large numbers of immigrants before. Some, like Jews, fled religious persecution. Others escaped economic hardship. Some were leaving Europe full of ideas for reform and political freedom.

About 200,000 Chinese immigrants came from 1851 to 1883. Many thousand immigrants came from Japan as well. From 1880 to 1920, about 260,000 immigrants came from the Caribbean. Many Mexicans came to the United States as well. Some became part of the country when territory was added after the Mexican War. About a million immigrants came from 1910 to 1930 to escape turmoil in Mexico.

Most immigrants traveled by steamship, riding in steerage—the cargo holds below the ship’s waterline. Conditions were cramped, with little light or air, and unclean. Many people suffered from disease. Those who arrived in New York were processed at Ellis Island. The process, which took about five hours, determined whether they could enter the country or had to return.

Asian immigrants arriving on the West coast were processed at Angel Island near San Francisco. Conditions were more unpleasant than at Ellis Island, and the processing was stricter.

Once in the United States, immigrants felt confused and worried by the new culture. Many settled in communities with other immigrants from the same country to feel more at home. They also formed organizations to help each other.

While immigrants were arriving in great numbers, anti-immigration feelings spread among some Americans. During the depression of the 1870s, many workers feared they would lose their jobs to

Chinese immigrants, who accepted low wages. In 1882, Congress passed the Chinese Exclusion Act, banning all but a few Chinese immigrants. The ban was not lifted until 1943. The United States and Japan reached a “Gentlemen’s Agreement” in 1907 and 1908 under which Japan restricted migration to the United States.

2 The Problems of Urbanization

KEY IDEA *The rapid growth of cities creates many problems: providing adequate housing, transportation, water and sanitation, and fighting fire and crime. The search for solutions begins.*

Most of the new immigrants moved to the nation’s cities to get work in the growing industrial economy. It was also cheaper and more convenient for them to live in cities. By 1910, immigrants made up more than half of the populations of 18 different cities. Many settled in neighborhoods with others from the same country—even from the same province.

As city populations rose, overcrowding sometimes resulted. Another movement helped swell urban populations. As efficient machines increased farm production, they also cost farm jobs. As a result, many people moved from farms to cities. About 200,000 of these new urban dwellers were African Americans leaving the South for Northern cities. They hoped to escape racial violence but found prejudice and low wages in their new homes as well.

The growing cities had many problems. There were housing shortages, and many urban property owners converted single family homes into multi-family apartments. These solutions often placed people in crowded conditions, full of filth and disease. Growing populations created transportation problems as well. As the cities continued to grow, the transit systems could not always keep up.

City officials also had difficulty obtaining enough clean water. Cities began to clean and filter

the water and insist on indoor plumbing, but these steps spread slowly. Removing waste and garbage was another problem.

By 1900 most cities had full-time professional fire departments. But the lack of water made fires very dangerous—and reliance on wood as a building material gave fires fuel to burn. Both Chicago, in 1871, and San Francisco, in 1906, suffered very devastating fires. Another problem of the growing cities was crime.

Some social reformers pushed to improve life in the cities. The Social Gospel movement held that Christians had a duty to try to reform conditions. Some reformers created settlement houses. These community centers aimed at helping the poor, especially immigrants. Run mostly by women, they offered schooling, nursing, and other assistance.

④ The Emergence of the Political Machine

KEY IDEA *The political machine emerges as cities attempt to deal with the problems of rapid urbanization.*

The large populations of cities provided an opportunity for a new political force—the political machine controlled by a boss. A machine was a group that controlled a political party. By giving voters services they needed, the machine won their votes and controlled city government.

The city boss controlled the whole machine—and the city government. Bosses controlled jobs in the police, fire, and sanitation departments. They controlled the city agencies that granted licenses to businesses. They controlled the money used to fund large construction projects. Many bosses came from immigrant families, and they understood immigrants' concerns. By helping to solve immigrants' problems, they won loyalty.

Political machines could point to many accomplishments. As they gained power, though, some individuals became corrupt. Some used illegal methods to win elections. Others abused power to become wealthy. Since the bosses controlled the police, they were seldom pursued. The Tweed Ring of New York was one of the most famous examples of corruption among city officials. Boss Tweed and many associates were finally convicted of various crimes.

④ Politics in the Gilded Age

KEY IDEA *Local and national political corruption during the Gilded Age leads to a call for reform.*

Corruption reached national politics. For many decades, presidents had given jobs to loyal party workers in what was called the spoils system. As a result, some workers were not qualified for their jobs. Others used their positions to get money.

Reformers wanted to end these abuses. They proposed a civil service system in which government jobs would go only to those who proved they were qualified.

President Rutherford B. Hayes took some steps to reform the federal government. This aroused the anger of some members of his own party. These Stalwarts, as they were called, opposed any changes. The next president, James Garfield, favored the reform movement, and he was shot and killed by an angry Stalwart. His successor, Chester Arthur, pushed through the Pendleton Act of 1883. It created the Civil Service Commission to give government jobs based on merit, not politics. The act helped reform the civil service. However, some politicians now turned to wealthy business leaders for campaign money. As a result, some corruption continued.

Another issue was how high to make the tariff, or tax on imported goods. Business leaders and Republicans wanted high tariffs so they could cut foreign competition. Democrats favored low tariffs. Under Republican presidents Benjamin Harrison and William McKinley, the tariff was high. Under Democrat Grover Cleveland, the tariff was lower.

Review

1. Where did immigrants come from in the period from 1870 to 1920?
2. What problems arose in the growing cities?
3. What role did political machines play in cities?
4. What led to the call for civil service reform?