Chapter 24: Extended Notes

Unit 4: Forging an Industrial Society

Period 4: 1865-1909

“The American Pageant” Chapter 24

Underlined terms indicate previous vocabulary; **bolded** terms indicate new vocabulary

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| Chapter 24: Industry Comes to Age. | Extra |
| What the nation lost in civic leadership, it gained in an astounding surge of economic growth. As late as 1870, agriculture remained the nation’s biggest business. By 1900, it accounted for less than half of the national economy. This amount of economic transformation was made by foreign investments, labor, trades, and technology. In 1865, when Lincoln was killed, there were only 35,000 miles of steam railways in the U.S, which was mostly east of the Mississippi. By 1900, the number increased to 192,556 miles.  Villages that were fortunate to have railroads built next to them became flourishing cities, while those that were bypassed became known as “ghost towns”.  The Union Pacific Railroad was commissioned by Congress to go westward. For each mile, the builders received federal loans, which ranged from $16,000 for flat lands and up to $48,000 for the mountainous country.  There was a favorite song sung by the Irish workers, called the “*Dril, Ye Tarriers, Drill (1888).* Mostly immigrants built the U.P. railroad, which were the Chinese and Irish.  The completion of the railroads had penetrated the arid barrier of the deserts, paving the way for the phenomenal growth of the Great West.There were also 4 other transcontinental lines that were completed before the century ended.  Refinements that played a vital role in railroading, were The Westinghouse air brakes, and the Pullman Palace cars.  Railroad stock promoters inflated their claims about a given line's assets and its profitability. They also sold stocks and bonds for more than the actual value. Railroaders bribed people with power to get away with things and competed against themselves.  People with money began to gain power. The court case Wabash, St. Louis and Pacific Railroad Company vs. Illinois declared that individual states had no power regulating interstate commerce. The Interstate Commerce Act compelled railroads to publish standard rates and prohibited rebates and pools. Despite this act was intended for good, railroaders adapted and the act didn't revolutionize.  Innovations in transportation fueled the nation's growth. The increased size of American market encouraged others to invent mass production methods. Those who made new products for a good price in large quantities and could make it, thrived. Between 1860 and 1880 two of the most famous inventions was the telephone and the lightbulb.  Andrew Carnegie pioneered vertical integration. His goal was to improve supply reliability, controlling the quantity of products at all stages, and eliminating middlemen's fees. John D. Rockfeller mastered horizontal integration, this meant allying with competitors to monopolize a given market. The Standard Oil Company used trust to eliminate competition.  Steel was a scarce commodity in America during this time. Despite this, America later grew to be one of the world's highest suppliers of steel. This was mostly because of the Bessemer-Kelly process, this made steel cheap. Among the steelmasters, Carnegie was a young man who worked hard to get into business that got into dealing with steel. By 1900, he was producing one fourth of the Bessemer steel | *“Then drill, my Paddies, drill; Drill, my heroes, drill; Drill all day, No sugar in your tay (tea) Workin’ on the U.P. Railway”*  Americans compared this completion achievement to the Declaration of Independence.  Adopted in the 1870s, and was a great contribution to efficiency and safety.  Introduced in the 1860s and was known as the “gorgeous traveling hotels”.  *The Interstate Commerce Act was passed in 1887*  *Pools were agreements between railroads to divide competitive business, sometimes by dividing traffic but usually by dividing income.*  *Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone in 1876.*  *Thomas Alva Edison is the inventor of the lightbulb in 1879. Some argue he stole the idea.*  *Vertical integration is the combination in one company of two or more stages of production normally operated by separate companies.*  *Trust is one company grants control of its operations to another company.*  *William Kelly discovered that cold air blown on red-hot iron caused the metal to become white-hot by igniting carbon and thus purifying it. This technique gradually got accepted after initial failures.* |