

Unit 7: The Turn of the Century – Industrialization & WWI

The Spanish American War:

- Fought between the United States and Spain. This conflict was very bloody and deadly; many people lost their lives.
- February 15, 1898 the last spark before America joined the war, was just set off. The conflicts started when the U.S.S. Maine exploded in Havana Harbor and 266 people got killed. Another cause for the war was on February 19, when the United States declines Spanish request for the sinking of the Maine. These 2 causes led to the Spanish-American War.
- The conflicts in the war were very dangerous and fatal. For instance, on November 30, the Battle of Iguara started this was the first American victory. Another American victory was at San Juan Hill on July 1 and many other battles unfolded the same way. The combat between the Spanish and Americans only lasted 10 weeks and the war was over. Cuban forces led armies of 540 men combined with American forces which consisted of 16,000 men.
- The results of the war were in favor of the Americans and the Cubans. The Cubans won the right to be an independent country away from Spain. The U.S. was now free to own the Philippines, Guam, and Puerto Rico. On the other hand, thousands of men from both the Americans and Spanish sides lost their lives during the war. On June 13, a Spanish general was killed. Spain was mourning their losses.
- Although it lasted 10 weeks, thousands of men died

The Wilmington Race Riots of 1898:

- At the close of the nineteenth century, the Democratic Party in North Carolina engineered a white supremacy revolution. White conservatives used violence, demagoguery, and fraud to seize political power and disenfranchise black citizens. The most notorious episode of the campaign was the Wilmington "race riot" of 1898, which claimed the lives of many black residents and rolled back decades of progress for African Americans in the state.

Technological Advances:

- Railroads: the development of railroads was one of the most important events of the Industrial Revolution. With their formation, construction and operation, they brought profound social, economic and political change to a country only 50 years old.
- Hydroelectricity: Hydroelectric power was also important during the industrial revolution at the beginning of the 1800's and provided mechanical power for textile and machine industries. Probably the most important year in hydropower history was in 1831 when the first electric generator was invented by Michael Faraday. This laid the foundation for us to learn how to generate electricity with hydropower almost half a century later, in 1878. The first hydroelectric power plant, located in Appleton, Wisconsin, began to generate electricity already in 1882.
- Improved Machinery: Industrialization greatly increased the economic, military, and political strength of the societies that embraced it. By and large, the countries that benefited from industrialization were the ones that had the necessary components of land, labor and capital, and often government support. One of the earliest to see improvements was the textile industry. Ex: Machines were bulky and expensive, so spinning and weaving could no longer be done at home. Wealthy textile merchants set up the machines in factories, and had the workers come to these places to do their work. At first the factories were set up near rivers and streams for water power, but other inventions later made this unnecessary.
- Living Conditions: As factory conditions improved, quality of worker life improved. As factories become safer and more profitable, workers through the use of unions, begin to experience a larger income for the 1st time in American History. As incomes go up, people begin to have more liquid cash to purchase luxury items for their homes instead of mere survival items.

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Key People:

- Washington Duke: tobacco industrialist and philanthropist; established Trinity College which became Duke University.
- James Buchannan Duke: son of Washington Duke, who expanded his father's cigarette industry to a monopoly
- Leonidas L Polk: Leader of the farmer's alliance, sought to improve the lives of sharecroppers and small farmers
- Charles B. Aycock: Governor of NC who although a segregationist, supported education for children of all races through a program called equalization
- Orville and Wilber Wright: Invented and flew the world's first successful airplane, their 1st successful flight was on the beaches of Kill Devil Hills, NC in the Outer Banks
- Upton Sinclair: Wrote "The Jungle" which brought attention to working conditions in the meat packing industry, and helped to convince congress to oversee regulations concerning the food industry
- Theodore Roosevelt: POTUS during the building of the Panama Canal, noted for the Roosevelt Corollary "Big Stick Policy"
- Ida Tarbell: Muckraker who wrote about Standard Oil Company, her writing helped pave the way for the Sherman Anti-Trust Act

Major Political Parties:

- Democratic: The modern Democratic Party was formed in the 1830's from former members of the Democratic-Republican Party. The new Democratic Party became a coalition of farmers, city-dwelling laborers, and Irish Catholics. It was weakest in New England, but strong everywhere else in the country. Democrats opposed elites and aristocrats, the Bank of the United States, and the modernizing programs that would build up industry at the expense of the yeoman or independent small farmer.
- Republican: Emerged in 1854 to combat the Kansas Nebraska Act which threatened to extend slavery into the US territories, and to promote more vigorous modernization of the economy. With the election of Abraham Lincoln in 1860, and its success in guiding the Union to victory and abolishing slavery, it came to dominate the national scene until 1932. The Republican Party was based on northern white Protestants, businessmen, professionals, factory workers, wealthier farmers, and blacks. It was pro-business, supporting banks, the gold standard, railroads, and high tariffs to protect heavy industry and the industrial workers.
- Fusionist: In the Tar Heel State, the Populist and Republican parties disagreed on certain national issues, such as the tariff, the gold standard, and silver coinage. The parties, however, agreed on many state issues, including education, voting rights, and restoring the charter of the Farmers' Alliance. Therefore on election ballots, the two parties would work together to get a common representative elected.
- Populist: During the 1890s, North Carolina witnessed a political revolution as the newly formed Populist Party joined with the Republicans to throw out do-nothing, conservative Democrats. Focusing on political transformation, electoral reform, and new economic policies to aid poor and struggling farmers, the Populists and their coalition partners took power at all levels in the only southern state where Populists gained statewide office. For a brief four years, the Populists and Republicans gave an object lesson in progressive politics in which whites and African Americans worked together for the betterment of the state and the lives of the people.

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Miscellaneous:

- NC's largest industries were tobacco, textiles and furniture
- Cities and towns became more segregated, creating racial tension and division between African-Americans and whites
- The population grew as people migrated to North Carolina and subsequently there was an increased need for more schools, factories and churches
- Industrialization and over-farming had a social and economic impact on the farming industry

Vocabulary:

- Bright Leaf Tobacco: tobacco cured by controlled heat, which turned a fine cured yellow color
- Monopoly: exclusive control of an industry
- Graded School: a school that required students to pass certain tests before proceeding on to the next grade
- Normal School: a college which trained people to be teachers
- Interest: a charge for borrowing money
- Supply: the amount of a product available for sale
- Farmer's Alliance: an organization founded in the 1800's to help small farmers
- Farmer Cooperative Store: a store which bought farm supplies in bulk to lower prices for small farmers
- Collateral: something pledged to guarantee the payment of a loan
- Money Supply: the amount of currency and coin available for each person in the country
- White Supremacy: the belief that the white race is superior to any other race
- Hydroelectricity: electricity generated by using water
- Disfranchisement: to lose the right to vote
- Grandfather Clause: provided an exception to the literacy requirement on voting as long as your grandfather had voted prior to 1867
- Universal Education: the belief that all children should have access to public education regardless of race
- Equalization: the funding of schools in poorer counties greater than those in wealthier counties
- Referendum: a vote of the people on a particular issue
- Compulsory Education: a requirement that all children attend school until a specified age
- Jim Crow Laws: segregation laws that separated the races particularly in public places like parks, stores and schools
- Mill Village: a cluster of houses, stores and schools near a factory that was owned by the company
- Yellow Journalism: a style of journalism that has very little research involved in the writing of news stories but instead uses "eye catching" or sensationalism to gain readers

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NC During and After WWI:

- support for the war in North Carolina varied: residents of rural areas tended to support the war but could not afford to purchase war bonds; factory workers and businessmen tended to provide financial support for the war by purchasing war bonds and contributing to fund raisers; German descendents in the Piedmont tended not to support the war; African-Americans tended to support the war.
- North Carolina's contribution to the war effort included tobacco products, weapons parts (shell casings), and linens for soldiers living in military barracks. In addition, the military established several enlistment camps in N.C. in order to train troops.
- NC's economy improved during the war due to good prices for tobacco and cotton and increased wages in factories
- North Carolina's economy slumped after the war due to decreased demand for agricultural and manufactured goods
- Many men left their jobs at home to fight in the war, thus creating an opportunity for women to enter the workforce in jobs typically reserved for men
- The war provided increased opportunities for African-Americans to migrate to northern states for better jobs and a less segregated society. As a result, North Carolina's African American population decreased during the Great Migration to the northern states
- The influx of African Americans in Harlem resulted in a literary and artistic movement called the Harlem Renaissance
- Technological advances such as the automobile and assembly line had a significant impact of the quality of living in North Carolina

Key People:

- Woodrow Wilson: POTUS during WWI, his "14 Points" speech led the way for the creation of the League of Nations and later the United Nations
- Henry Ford: perfected the assembly line for mass production, thus making cars affordable

Key Terms:

- Armistice: an agreement to stop fighting
- Strike: when workers refuse to work usually as a protest over some grievances
- Great Migration: the movement of blacks from across the South to the northern cities
- Draft: forced enlistment in the military
- Victory Garden: gardens grown during WWI & WWII by the public, to provide enough food for the war effort
- War Bonds: investments issued by the government to the people to finance a war
- Harlem Renaissance: a time period after WWI when Harlem, NY became the center of accepted and successful African American literature, music, dance and painting
- Assembly Line: an arrangement of workers, machines, and equipment in which the product passes from operation to operation until completed

WWI:

- WWI was a large scale military conflict involving European nations, the USA and other nations around the world. The war lasted from August 4th, 1914 – November 11th, 1918. More than 15,000,000 people were killed and another 20,000,000 wounded, making it one of the most devastating conflicts ever. The war ended with the defeat of the German Empire, Austro-Hungarian Empire, Turkish Empire and Russian Empire. The League of Nations was formed afterwards, to prevent such a war from ever happening again, however it was disbanded after it failed to prevent WWII in 1939.
- Major causes include: nationalism (being a strong supporter of the rights and interests of one's country), militarism (The rapid growth of a military to a unsafe level), Imperialism (when a country takes over new lands or countries and makes them subject to their rule) and unchecked alliances (A number of alliances had been signed by countries between the years 1879 and 1914. These were important because they meant that some countries had no option but to declare war if one of their allies were attacked).