

Review Gilded Age

1876-1890' s 6 Pres 4 were Republicans

- **Hayes- (Repub)** 1876- disputed election Secret Deal, ie., Reconstruction Compromise of 1876, did not run again in 1880.
- **Garfield (Repub)** 1881, Assassinated by Guiteau, Office Seeker,
- **Arthur-** VP under Garfield, allegations of corruption earlier in career, supported Civil Service Reform, not nominated for the next election
- **Cleveland (Dem)1884** close election against corrupt Blaine (Repub), lots of Mudslinging, adultery... pro-capitalist, low tarriff
- **Harrison- (Repub)** 1888, close election, pro-tariff and big business
- **Cleveland (Dem) 1892-** Runs and wins again-2 terms
- **McKinley (Repub)** 1896- Extremely pro business, pro- gold standard- will advocate strong laissez faire attitude in government, supported by the supreme court

How did/do people react to immigrants coming to America?

- Whenever a new group enters into an established community **tension** is caused and a pattern of development can be seen.
- Examples:
- When the Irish came in the 1840's the established groups of British and Germans did not like the new Irish.
- Irish were different:
- Language- Irish
- Religion Roman Catholic
- Culture different from British
- Lifestyles-
- They were looked down upon and discriminated against. See cartoons.
- **Xenophobia**- anti foreigner attitudes
- **Nativism**- The idea of blaming immigrants for problems.
- Established groups blamed the new groups for problems:
- Taking Jobs, Lazy -Famous Slogan: "No Irish Need Apply"
- People said they were responsible for: Crime
- Immorality- alcohol abuse
- Catholics- not loyal to America
- Dirty-
- Inferior, Damaging to the United States

Pendleton Civil Service Act 1883

- The Pendleton Civil Service Act established an independent three-member
- **Civil Service Commission** that would fill government jobs on the basis of an entrance exam and not favoritism- **Anti-Corruption measure**

The People's Party or Populists

- A coalition Party idea to include
 - Farmers
 - Workers
- Issues:
 - Government Ownership of RR
 - Graduated Income Tax
 - Immigration Restriction
 - 8 hour work day
 - Free Silver
 - Outlaw- private police against labor
- Significance:
 - Third party could take votes away from one of the major parties (it could make the difference in the election)
 - Becomes an significant part of the 1896 election

Sherman Antitrust Act (1890)

- **The Sherman Antitrust Act was the first legislation to limit trusts**
- **It was based on the constitutional power to regulate interstate trade**
- **Stockholders transferred their shares to one person or trustees who then controlled the company and eliminated competition**
- **The Sherman Act authorized the government to dismember trusts and to prevent monopolies**
- **In 1895 the Supreme Court abolished the Sherman Act in the *United States v. E. C. Knight Company***

Government Support of Big Business

- Sherman Anti-Trust Act: disallows any activity in restraint of trade (i.e., labor unions)
- Wabash v. Illinois (Wabash case): states cannot regulate the railroads, as they are engaged in interstate trade
- United States v. E.C. Knight Company: A sugar company gains control of 98% of the market; Supreme Court rules because it is engaged in manufacturing and not interstate commerce, couldn't be regulated by federal law.

Major Labor Events

- 1877 Railroad Strike: Employers angry about lower wages; turns violent; President Hayes has to call in the U.S. Army.
- 1886 Haymarket Square Riot: A labor demonstration turns violent when someone throws a bomb into the crowd; a dozen people are killed. Never found any proof of who threw the bomb, but eight anarchists and labor activists blamed. Public turned off from labor unions.
- 1892 Homestead Steel Strike: Carnegie's workers strike over lower wages. Pinkertons called in to crush the strike; laborers open fire; state militia called in to crush the strike.
- 1894 Pullman strike: Workers laid off, wages cut; strike, led by socialist Eugene Debs; Court cites Sherman anti-trust act, demanding strikers get back to work; President Cleveland sends in troops and arrests leaders.

The Grange

- Est. as a sort of union for farmers; starts out as social becomes political
- Membership increases to 800,000 by 1875
- Political success and setbacks
 - Munn v. Illinois (1877): courts ruled that property devoted to “public use” (RR, grain elevators, etc.) could be regulated by the states
 - Illinois v. Wabash (1886) Commerce that crosses state lines is under direction of federal government, not states; therefore, states cannot regulate
 - Interstate Commerce Act and ICCommission (1886): allows federal government to regulate RR; forces RR to obey laws on fair shipping rates; bans rate discrimination on short v. long hauls