

■ Essential Question:

- How did the chaotic conditions of urban America in the Gilded Age contribute to “progressive” reforms in the early 20th century?

■ Warm-Up Question:

- Identify the key theme for each Gilded Age image presented
- Quick Class Discussion: Why did the U.S. need “progressive” reform after the Gilded Age?

What is Progressivism?

From 1890s to 1920, progressives
Democrats, Republicans, & Socialists all
found reasons to support progressivism
Socialism was one of the Gilded Age

Progressive reform began in the late Gilded Age, especially during the Panic of 1893 which exposed serious flaws in the American political, economic, & social fabric

Progressive reform
Some histories mark the end of Progressivism in 1917 when the USA entered WWI; others mark the end at 1920 with the 19th amendment & others wanted national reforms

Optimism & belief in progress
("investigate, educate & legislate")

Social Gospel taught Christians that it was their duty to end poverty & inequality

Looked to the government to help achieve goals

Desire to "humanize" industry & urbanization

Their actions impacted the entire nation; not regions like the Populists

Progressive Themes

Change the environment in order to change people (no Social Darwinism)

Led by educated middle-class "experts" who developed "rational" solutions



Reforming America's Cities

Reforming America's Cities

- Progressive reform 1st began in cities in the 1890s to address factory, tenement, labor problems:

Early reformers realized that private charity was not enough to cure all social ills

- The Social Gospel movement was a new religious philosophy that focused on improving society & saving individual souls

The Female Dominion

- Some of the 1st reformers were educated, middle-class women:
 - Women found reform was a way to improve their communities & to break out of their traditional, 19th century social roles
 - Led by Jane Addam's Hull House in Chicago, settlement houses were built in slums, offering health care, baths, & cheap food



0087582 HULL HOUSE: NURSERY.
Credit: The Granger Collection, New York

The Female Dominion

- Women were key leaders in:
 - Charity Org Society—collected data on poverty & slums; led to the NY Tenement Commission
 - Nat'l Conference of Social Work used professional social workers & called for minimum wages, maximum hours, widow pensions
- In the 1930s, the gov't passed the National Child Labor Laws

Membership grew
in the WCTU

WCTU

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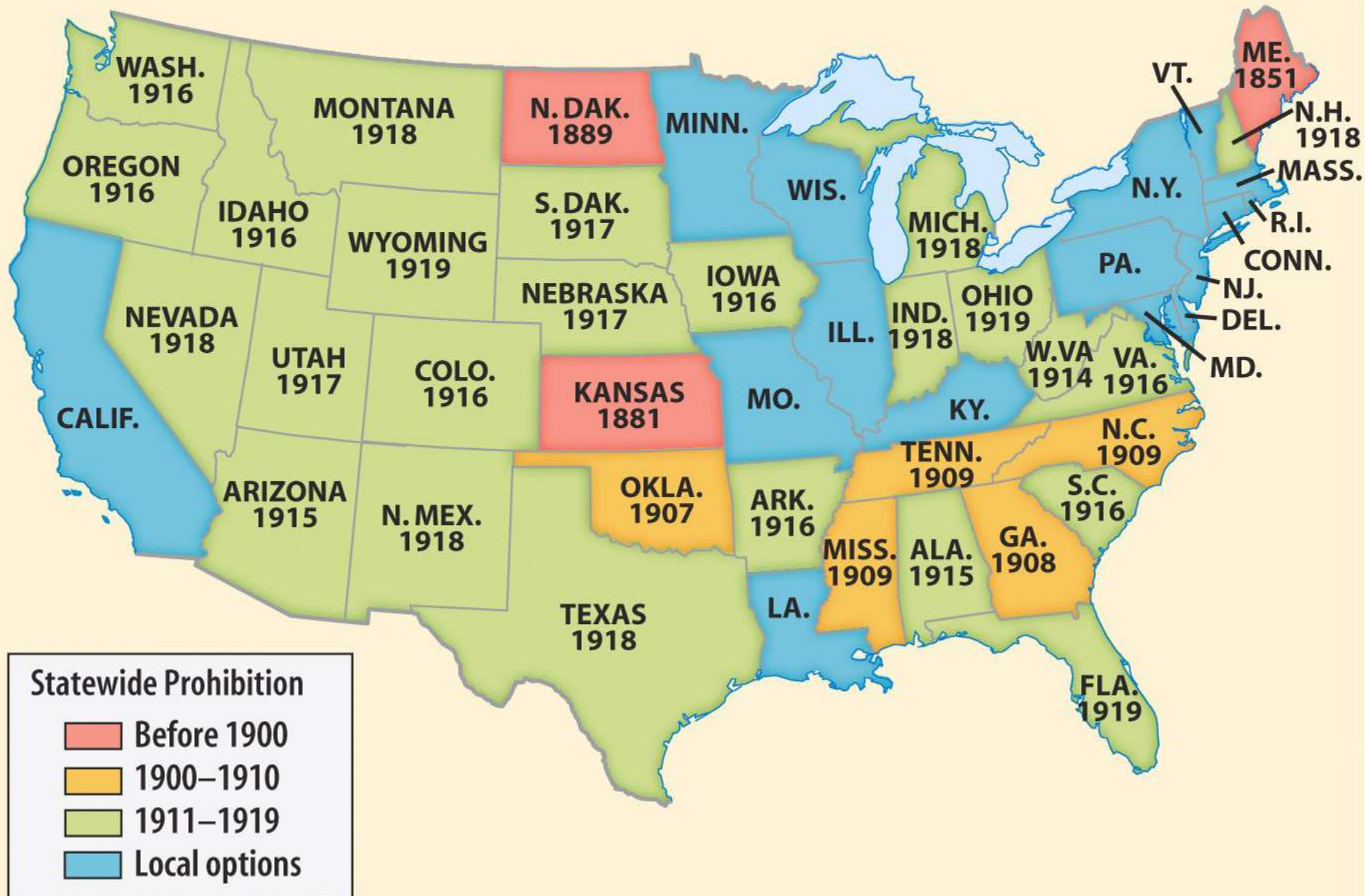
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LIPS THAT
TOUCH LIQUOR
SHALL NOT
TOUCH OURS



Prohibition of alcohol in the states prior to 1920



Attacking Political Machines

- Mugwumps were reformers who strove to end corruption among political machines in cities:

The Gilded Age saw the height of urban machines whose politicians controlled lawmaking, police departments, & courts

- The “Good Gov’t” Movement found ways to shift power from bosses to mayors & city councils

Thomas Nast was the Gilded Age's most important Mugwump cartoonist



Muckraking Journalism

- New “muckraking” journalism drew attention to social problems, such as urban poverty, corruption, & big business practices:
 - Popular monthly magazines, like *McClure's* & *Collier's*, used investigative journalism & photos
 - Jacob Riis' *How the Other Half Lives* (1890) was the 1st exposé of urban poverty & slums



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Lives

Muckraking Journalism

- Other groundbreaking exposés:
 - Henry George's *Progress & Poverty* (1879) showed the growing gap between rich & poor
 - Lincoln Steffan's *Shame of the Cities* (1902) exposed corrupt political machine bosses
 - Ida Tarbell's *History of Standard Oil* (1904) revealed Rockefeller's ruthless business practices

Muckraking Journalism

- Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle* (1906) led to federal investigation of the meat packing industry, gov't inspection & improved sanitation

■ Said *"I aimed at the public's heart & by accident I hit it in the stomach"* which

led to the Pure Food & Drug Act requiring listing of ingredients & banned "adulterated" drugs

Standardizing Education

- Psychologist William James promoted the idea that one's environment dictates behavior
- School leaders applied these ideas to reform public education:
 - Schools became a primary vehicle to assimilate immigrants
 - John Dewey promoted “creative intelligence,” not memorization or strict teaching



For Homework:

Read excerpts from

Upton Sinclair's

The Jungle & answer
the questions provided

■ Essential Question:

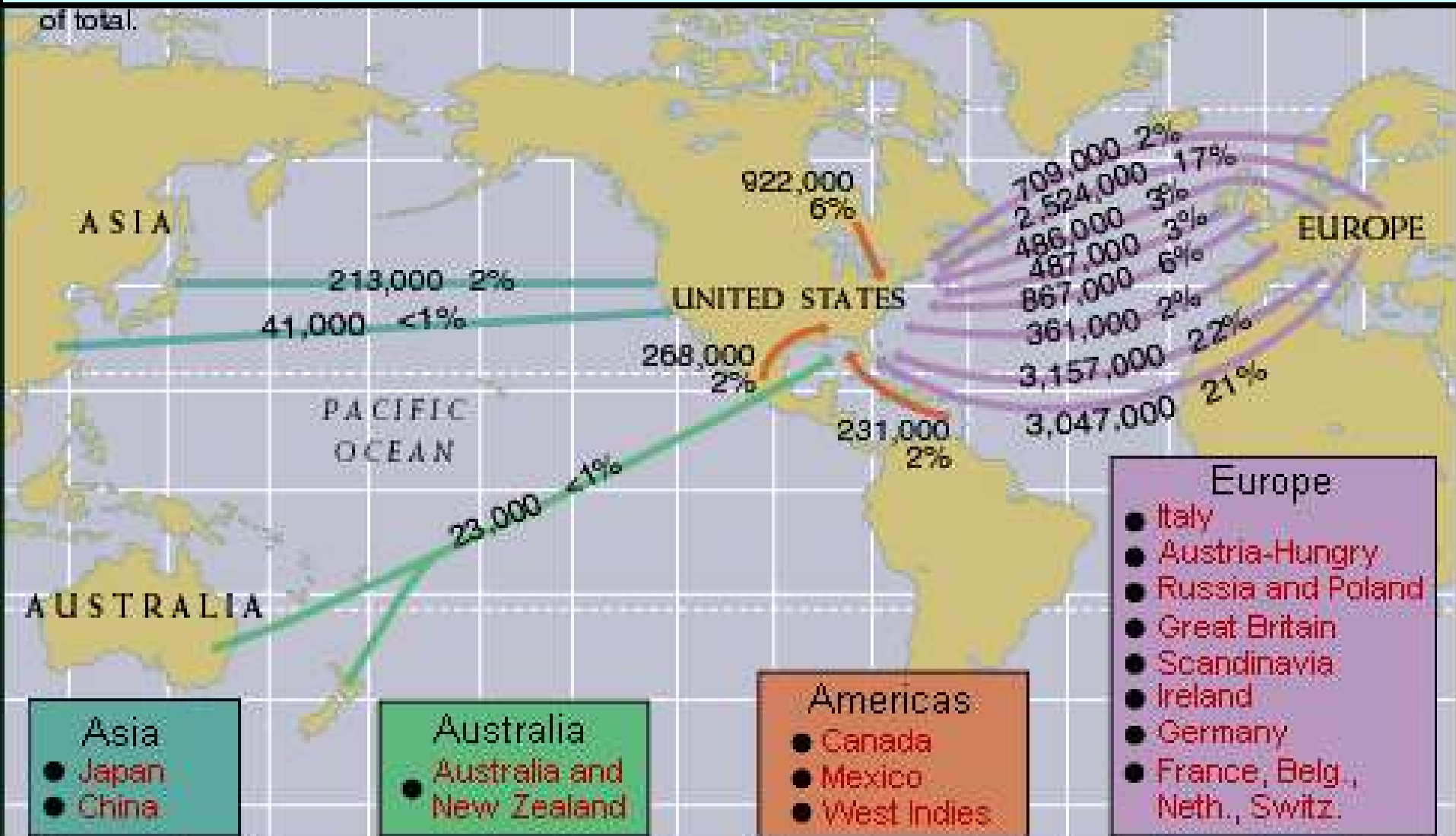
- How did the chaotic conditions of urban America in the Gilded Age contribute to “progressive” reforms in the early 20th century?

■ Reading Quiz Ch 21A (722-736)

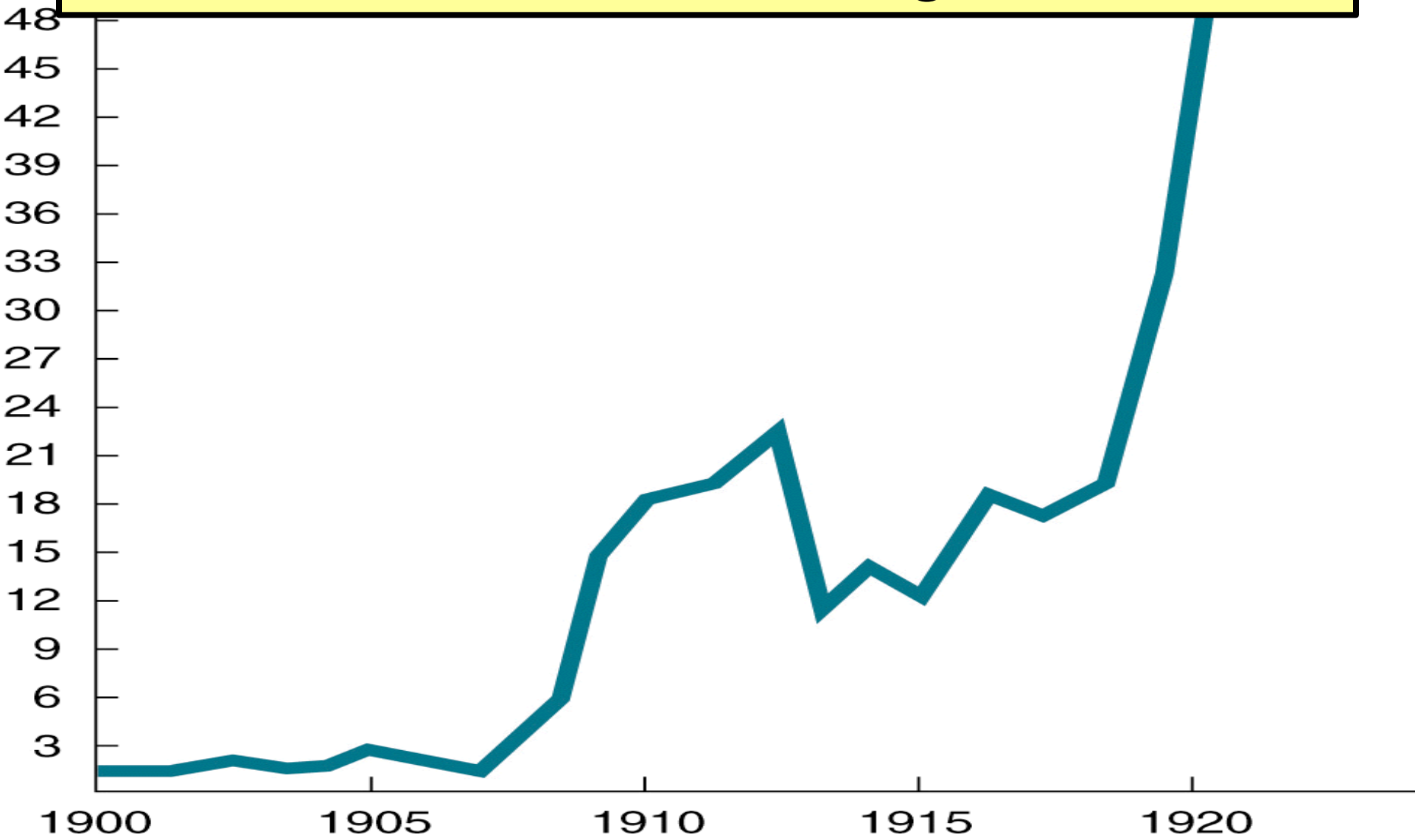


Working-Class Reform

By 1914, 60% of the U.S. work force was foreign born; Most immigrant laborers were unskilled, lived in poverty & in ethnic enclaves



Mexican immigrants worked in western farms, railroads, & mines as well as Southern & California agriculture



This was not like Ellis Island in NYC where
immigration processing took hours;
At Angel Island, processing took months

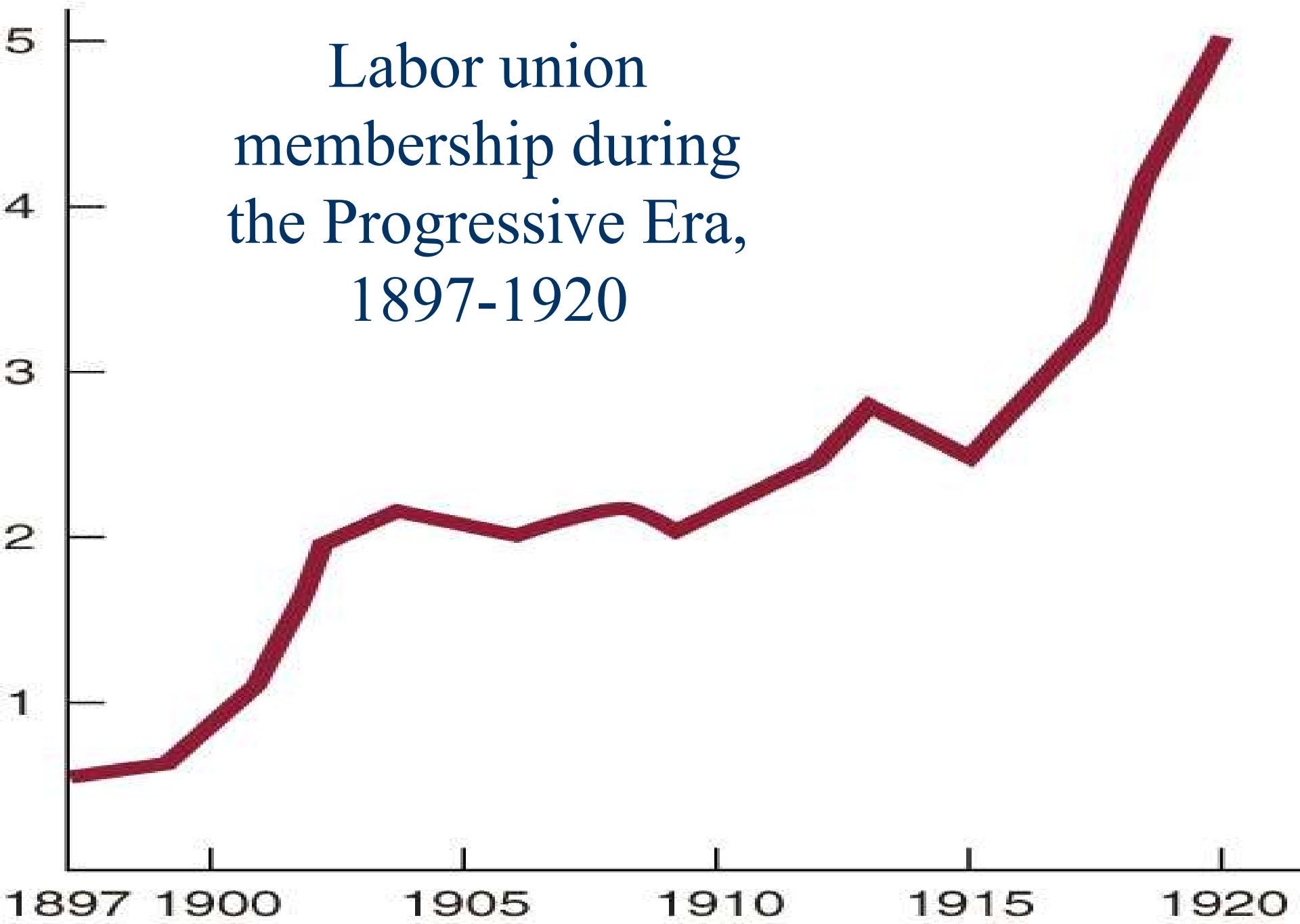
木屋拘留 幾十天
所因 國體 創 設 牽連
可憐 英雄 無用武
只聽 音來 策程 報
從今 遠矣 此樓中
各位 鄉君 歡同
莫道 其間 香西瓦
設成 玉砌 變如籠

Conflict in the Workplace

- The new industrial advances like mass production & management sped up production but led to:
 - Long hours, low wages, dangerous settings for workers
 - Labor unrest & strikes
 - Union membership jumped from 4% in 1900 to 13% by 1920
 - Progressive reforms for workers

Millions

Labor union
membership during
the Progressive Era,
1897-1920



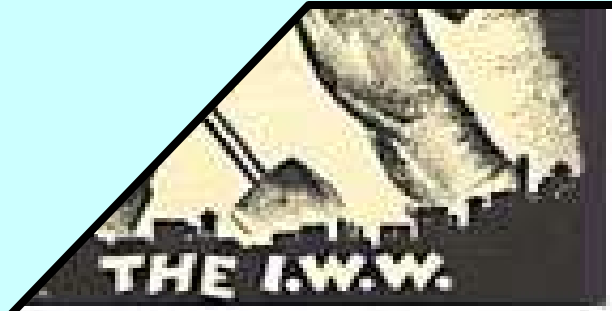
“It is our purpose to overthrow the capitalist system by forceful means if necessary... [There is nothing a worker can do that] will bring as much anguish to the boss than a little sabotage in the right place.”

—IWW co-founder “Big Bill” Haywood

ethnicity, or skill

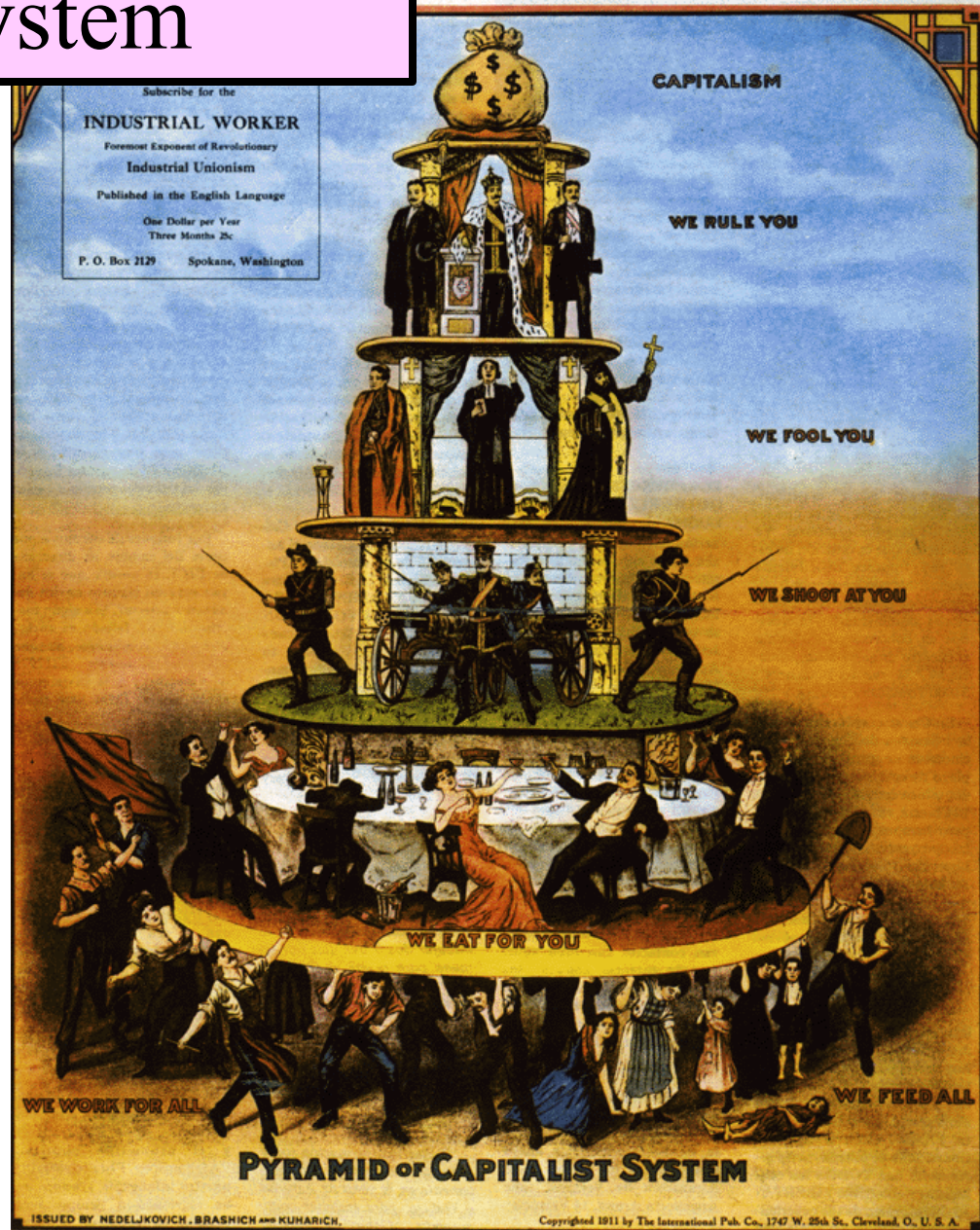
Called the “Wobblies”

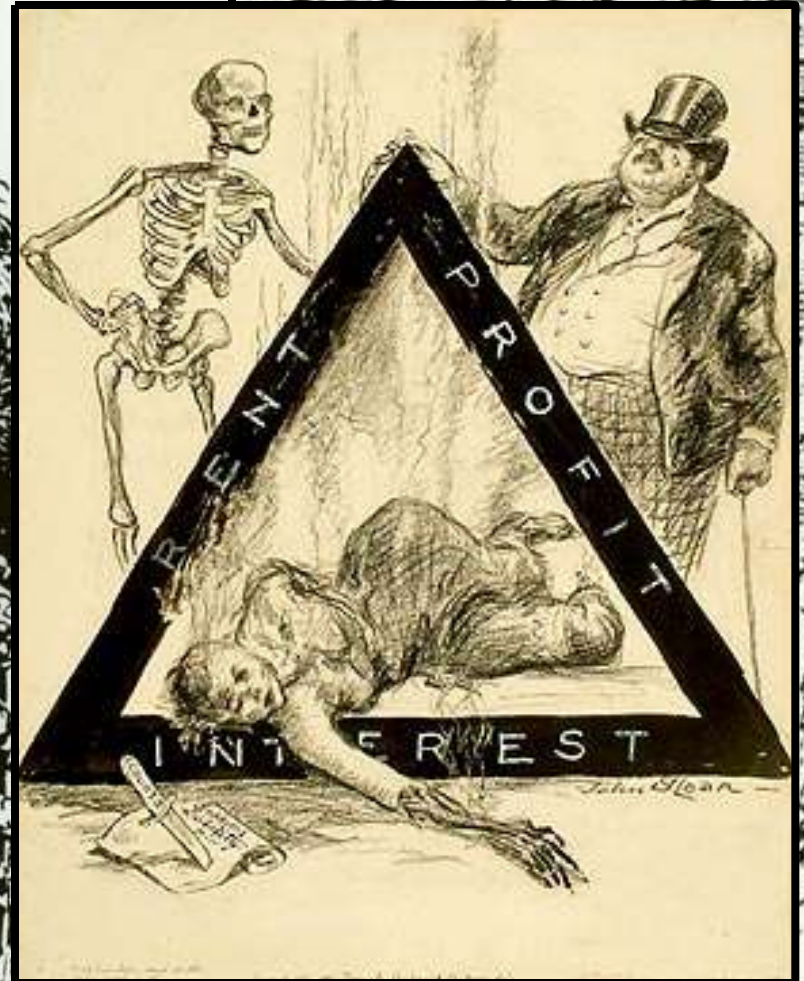
—Industrial Workers of the World (1905) urged revolution & the creation of a workers’ republic via sabotage & strikes



Did not threaten to overthrow
the capitalist system

League
formed the
Socialist Party
of America &
applied Marxist
ideas into a
moderate &
appealing
political platform





TEN THOUSAND MEN IN RUSH TO SHARE FORD'S PROFIT PLAN

Ford Profit-Sharing Plan Described in Brief

To give employees \$10,000,000 of profits of 1914.
Payments to be added to semi-monthly pay checks.
To run factory continuously instead of eighteen hours.
Hours reduced from nine to eight for each employee.
Establishment of minimum wage scale of \$5 a day.
Man about to be discharged will get chance in another department.

Originators of Idea Explain Their Aim

"We believe in making 30,000 men prosperous and
contented, rather than follow the plan of making a
few millionaires out of an establishment with millions

SQUAD OF POLICE
TRYING TO
JOBLESS IN LINE

Crimes of Unemployed Justice
And Shove in Efforts to
Reach Employment Office.

APPLICANTS OUT EARLY

Lowest Wages to Be \$5 a Day.

From the Collections of The Henry Ford
P633.29



with Workers

Some used violence to
but others

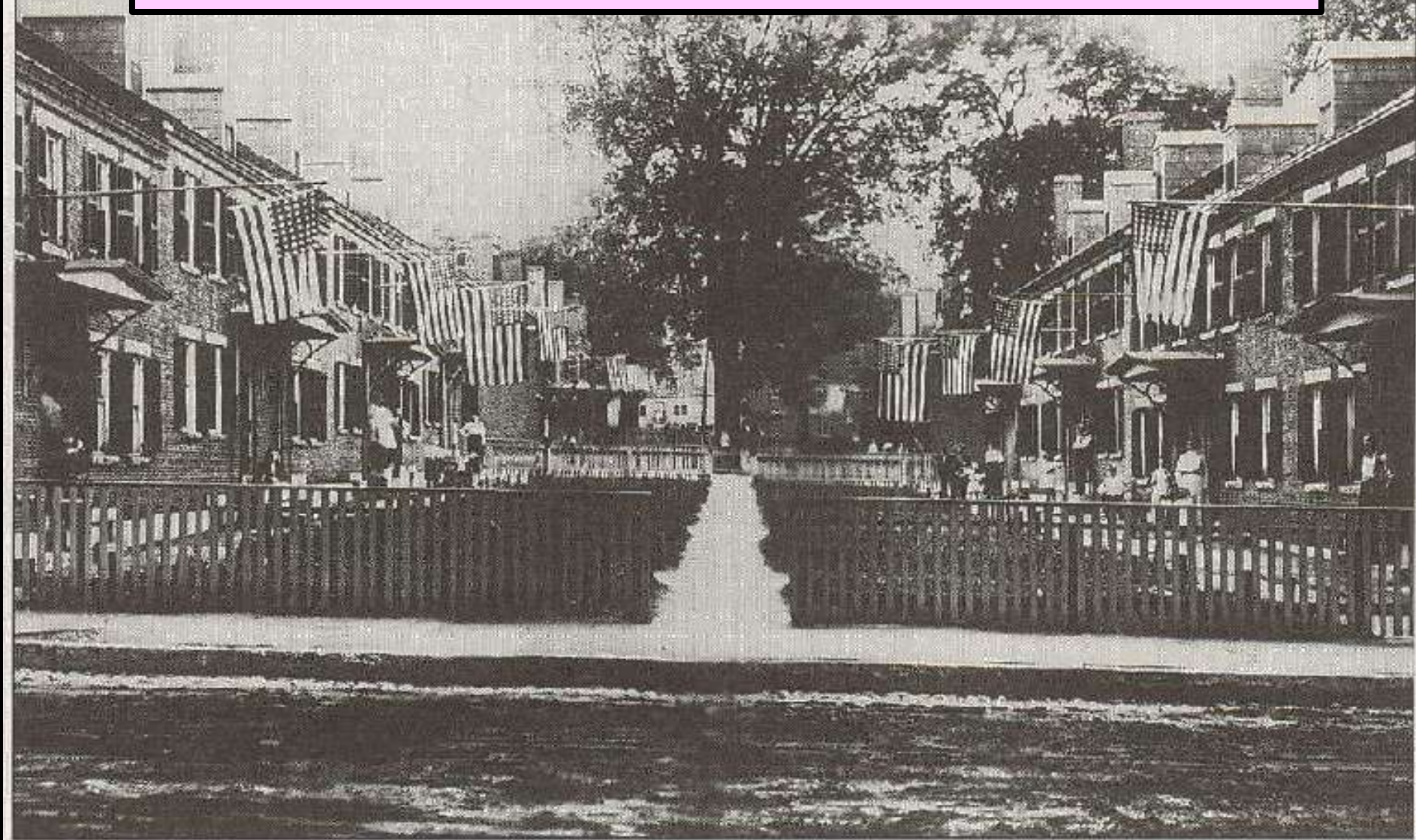
Created conditions to

Led to an increase
in production & a
more stable & loyal
workforce

5 dollar day

textile factory in
alism & benefits,
& health care

...and provided company housing



Families pose in their doorways at Amoskeag Company employee housing. Photographer unknown, circa 1900. (MVHC)

A decorative vertical bar on the left side of the slide, featuring a light gray background with a series of horizontal stripes in blue, red, and black. The stripes are of varying widths and colors, creating a textured effect.

The Women's Movement & Black Awakening

The Women's Movement

- Successful progressive reforms led by women strengthened calls for women's rights & suffrage:

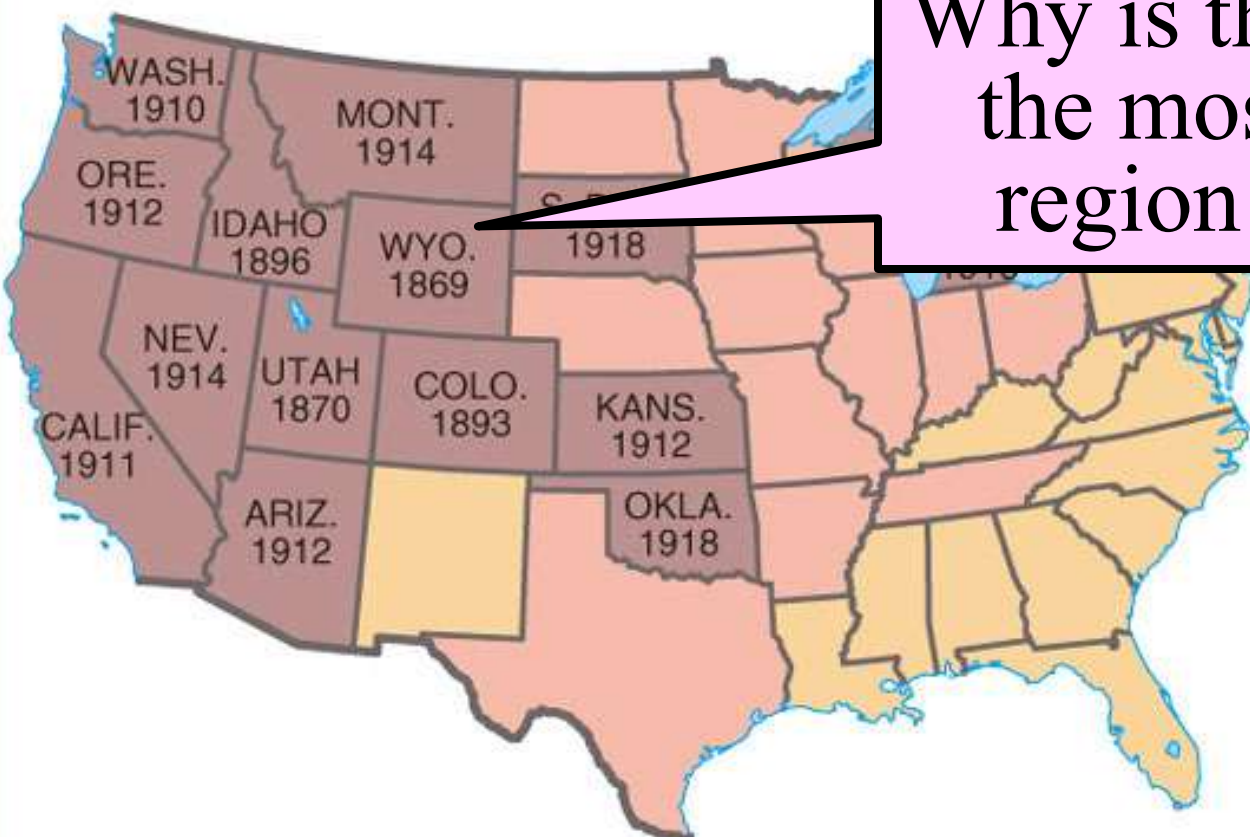
- The National Association of Colored Women advocated for




“Women's vote will help cure ills of society”

- The National American Woman Suffrage Association was key in getting the 19th Amendment passed in 1920

Why is the West always
the most democratic
region in America?

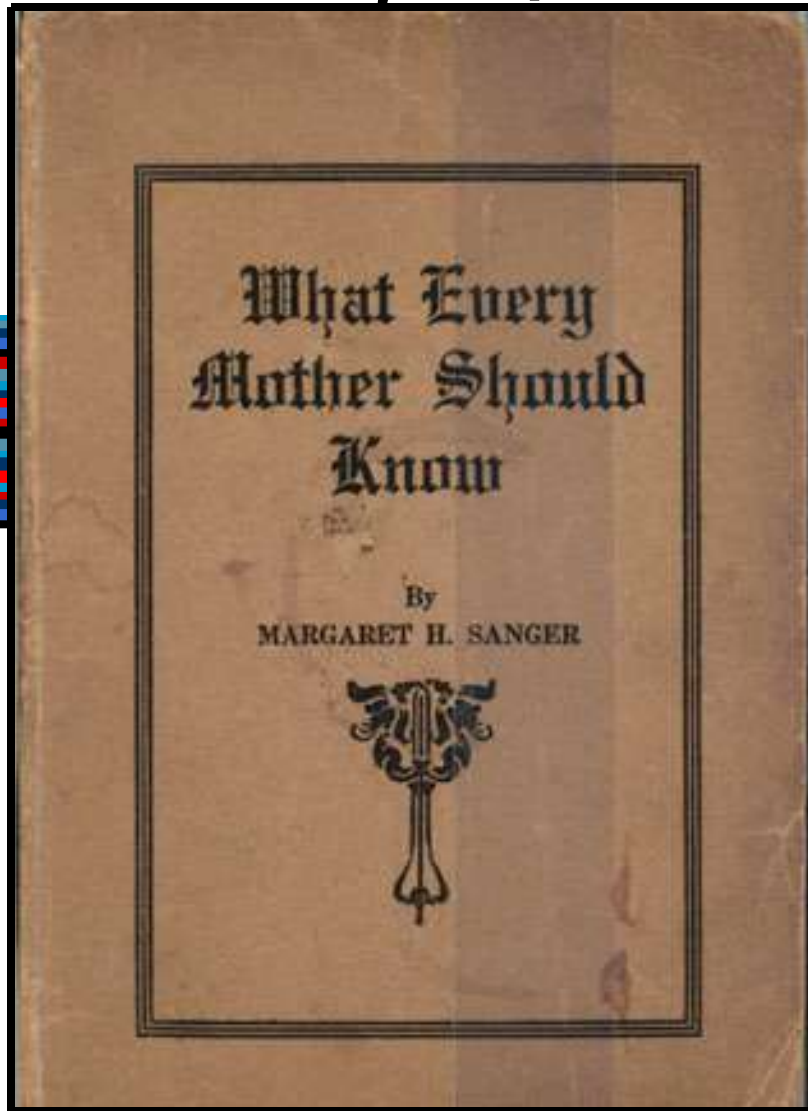
Women's Suffrage Before 1900



	Equal suffrage with effective date
	Partial woman's suffrage
	No woman's suffrage

The Women's Movement

■ Margaret Sanger



To ensure that poor & uneducated whites

Plessy v Ferguson (1896):

Segregation does not violate the 14th amendment
& can be used as public policy as long as separate
facilities are equal (“*separate but equal*”)

most as sharecroppers
Poll tax, literacy tests, property
qualification, limited black suffrage

- The Plessy v Ferguson (1896)
case strengthened Jim Crow laws
allowed segregation in public areas
(restaurants, hotels, schools)

African-American Reforms

- Progressive reform did occur in Southern state government, but:
 - Reform focused on regulating RR & industries in order to benefit white farmers
 - Social reform did not occur; keeping blacks from voting was seen as necessary
- Due to this inequity, black civil rights leaders demanded reform

African-American Reforms

- But, black leaders were divided on how to address racial problems
 - Booker T Washington was Harvard educated, studied black urban culture, & was 1st president of Tuskegee University
 - His “Atlanta Compromise” stressed black self-improvement (not lawsuits or agitation against whites)



“[African-Americans] have a right to know, to think, to aspire... We must strive for the right which the world accords to man.”

—W.E.B. DuBois

immediate
integrated
promotion
to be the new
civil rights



The Niagara Movement & NAACP

- In 1909, National Assoc for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) was formed by William Walling & others; DuBois was put in charge of *The Crisis* publication
- The NAACP had some victories:
 - Guinn v U.S. (1915) ended Oklahoma's grandfather clause
 - Buchanan v Worley (1917) ended KY housing segregation



Conclusions:



The Impact of Urban
Progressive Reform

Conclusions

- Social progressivism led to successful reforms in American cities by attacking corruption & advocating for the less fortunate
- ~~Urban reformers~~ drew national attention to:
 - The plight of women & blacks (with mixed results)
 - The need for reform at the state & national levels

Washington vs. Dubois

- Examine reading provided:
 - What were various economic, political, & social problems facing blacks by 1900?
 - What were the differing perspectives of civil rights leaders on possible solutions?
 - Which leader, Washington or DuBois, had the better plan for African-Americans by 1900? Why?