

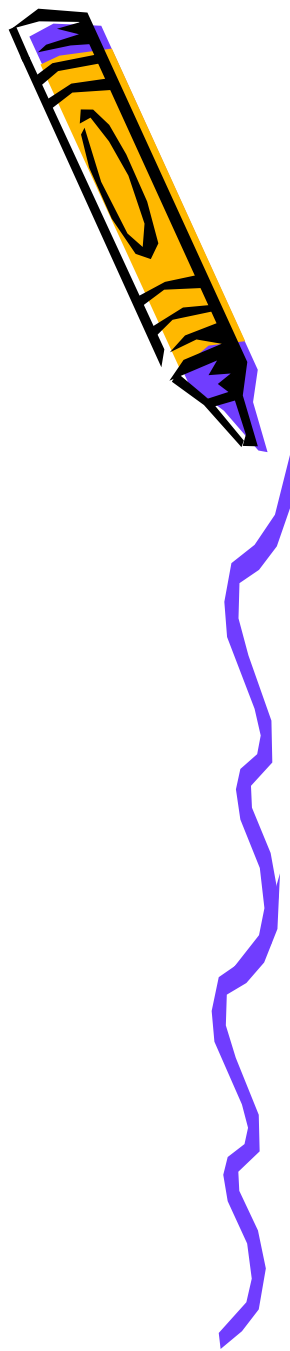
HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Lecture 2



OUTLINE

1. Sectional conflict
2. Civil war
3. Reconstruction
4. Moving west
5. Industrial growth



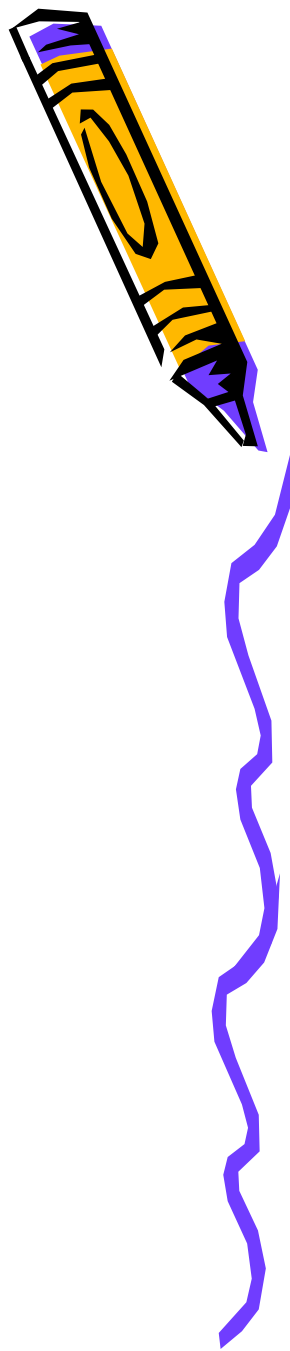
OUTLINE

6. Overseas expansion

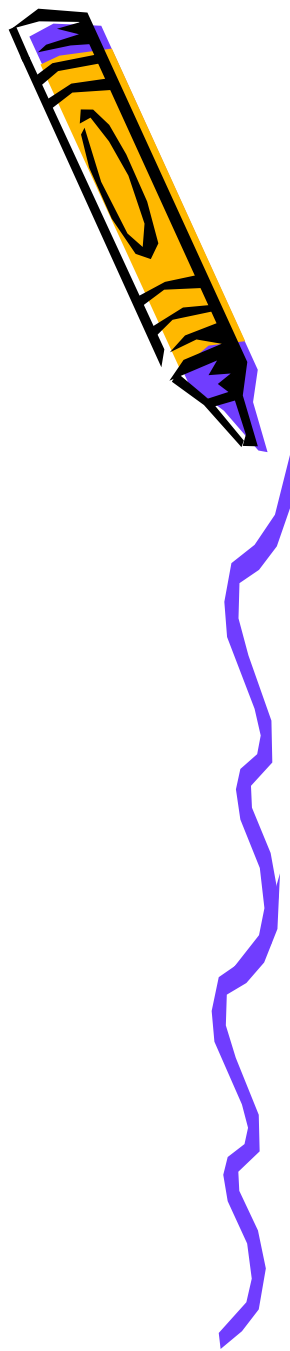
7. World War I

8. Isolation and prosperity

9. Great Depression



RECOMMENDED LITERATURE



- This lecture has been prepared on the basis of the US Information Agency handout by Jonathan Rose *History: 1865 to 1929* (1986)
- Any source available on the topic under study





Sectional conflict

- Slavery – social contradiction of 1830s-1850s, point of dispute
- Importation of slaves outlawed in 1808, many Northern states abolished slavery
- Southern economy = large plantations (cotton, rice, tobacco, sugar), supported slavery



Sectional conflict

- 1820 – western territories and slavery (permitted in Missouri and Arkansas, but not permitted north and west of Missouri)
- Another burning issue – high tariff, which protected Northern industries and raised prices for Southern agricultural consumers





Sectional conflict

- 1845 – war with Mexico+\$15 mln – Texas added, +California, Arizona, Nevada, Utah, New Mexico, Colorado
- 1846 – Oregon, Washington and Idaho acquired
- 1850 – Congress voted: California – a free state; Utah and New Mexico – decide themselves
- Fugitive Slave Act; Uncle Tom's Cabin



Sectional conflict

- 1854 – Senator Stephen Douglas – Kansas and Nebraska resolve the question of slavery themselves – violent dispute in those states
- 1858 – senatorial election (Douglas-Democrat v Abraham Lincoln- Republican)
- Lincoln demanded to stop slavery (the country can't be half slave and half free)



Civil War

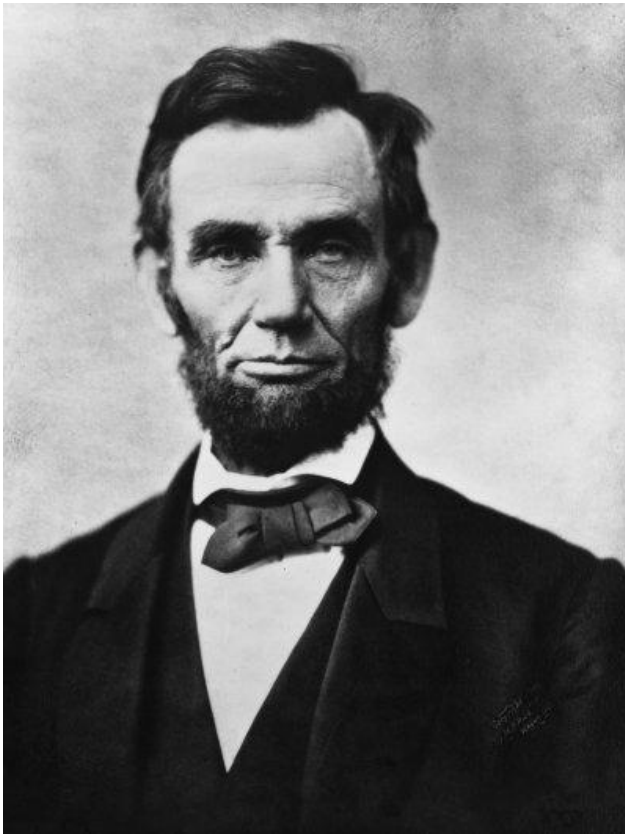
- 1860 – Presidential election (Douglas and Lincoln)
- Tension between North and South – extreme by that moment
- North supported Lincoln and he won
- S.Carolina voted to leave the Union, joined by Mississippi, Florida, Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Texas, Virginia, Arkansas, Tennessee, North Carolina



Civil War

- 11 states – Confederate States of America – independent nation – beginning of the Civil War
- South – second American revolution
- North had more soldiers, Southern railroad network and industry could not support the war
- Union (northern) navy imposed a blockade
- Civil liberties postponed, lots of paper money, conscription

Civil War



- Abraham Lincoln
(1809-1865)
- The 16th US
President
- Regarded by many
as America's
greatest President
- Referred to as
Honest Abe



Civil War

- Lincoln's priorities: US – one country, get rid of slavery
- 1863, Jan 1 – Emancipation Proclamation (freedom to the slaves in areas of Confederacy)
- Summer 1863 – Gettysburg – three days of the largest battle on American soil
- General Robert Lee (Confederate) v Ulysses Grant (Union forces);



Civil War

- Vicksburg captured - Union forces controlled the entire Mississippi Valley, splitting the Confederacy in two
- April 1865 – confederate forces surrendered
- C.W. – most traumatic episode in American history, devastated the South, subjected it to military occupation; many soldiers died
- 2 results: 1865 - 13th Amendment – abolition of slavery; US – one country



Reconstruction

- After the war South devastated and economically destroyed
- Legal abolition of slavery and no real freedom for former slaves, attempts to block blacks from voting
- “Reconstruction” = reform of the Southern states
- By 1870 – South governed by groups of blacks, whites and transplanted Northerners



Reconstruction

- New state governments improved education, social services, protected civil rights
- Ku Klux Klan – violent secret society to protect white interests by terrorizing blacks; by 1872 KKK suppressed
- 1877 – Reconstruction ended (new state constitutions ratified, northern troops withdrawn from the South)
- Constitutional guarantees & “second class citizens” (legal freedom – slaves treatment)



Reconstruction

- Racial segregation in schools & hospitals; trains, parks, other public places – not segregated
- 1896 – Supreme Court permitted separate facilities and services, if equal
- Segregation grew more severe (public transport, theatres, sports, elevators, cemeteries)
- Lost right to vote (paying poll taxes, literacy tests)



Moving west

- After 1865 – western half of the US settled
- Battles with Indians (7,000 whites and 5,000 Indians killed)
- Buffalo destroyed (food and hides for Indians of the Great Plains); diseases, hunger

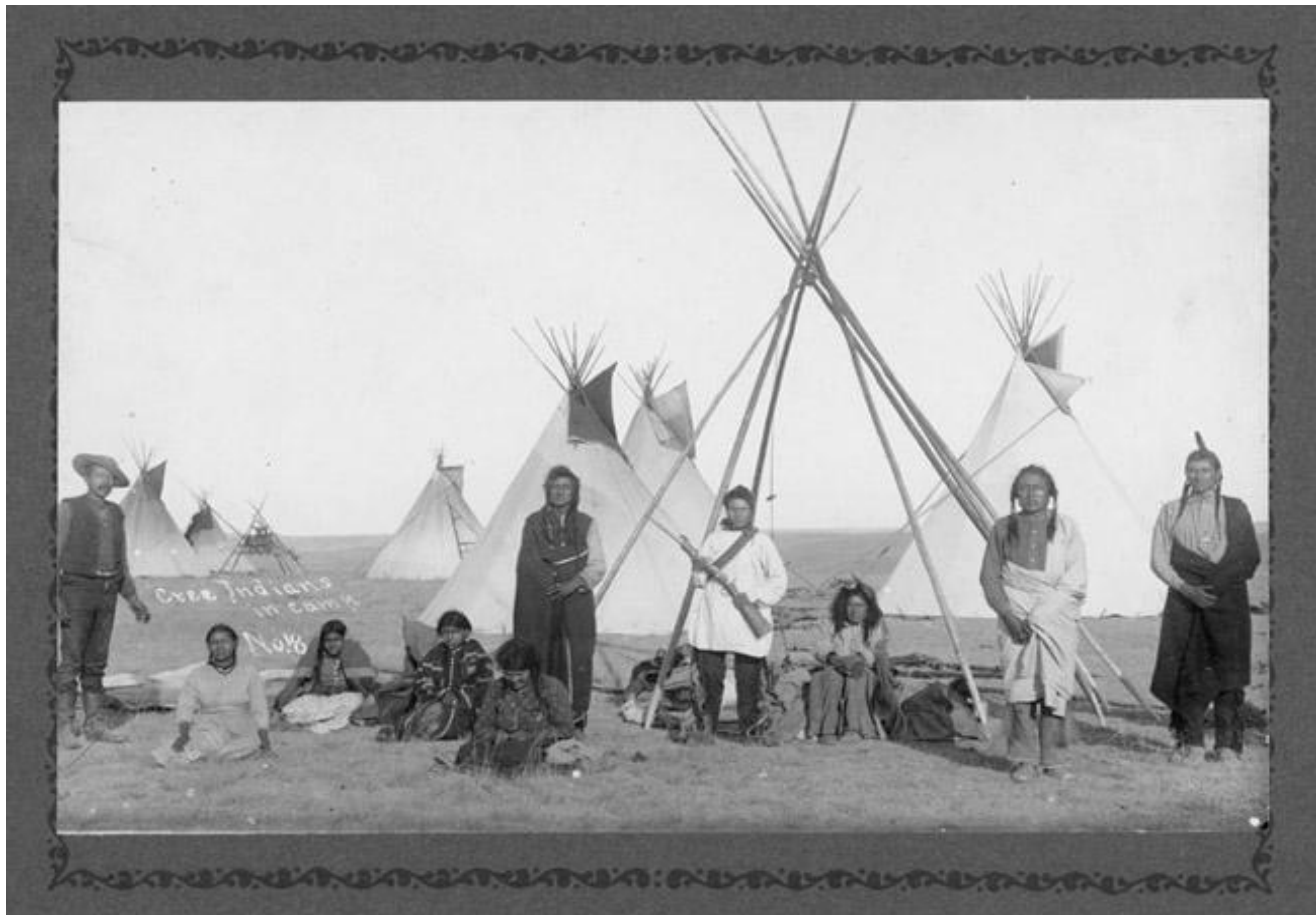


Moving west



Buffalo

Moving west Great Plains Indians

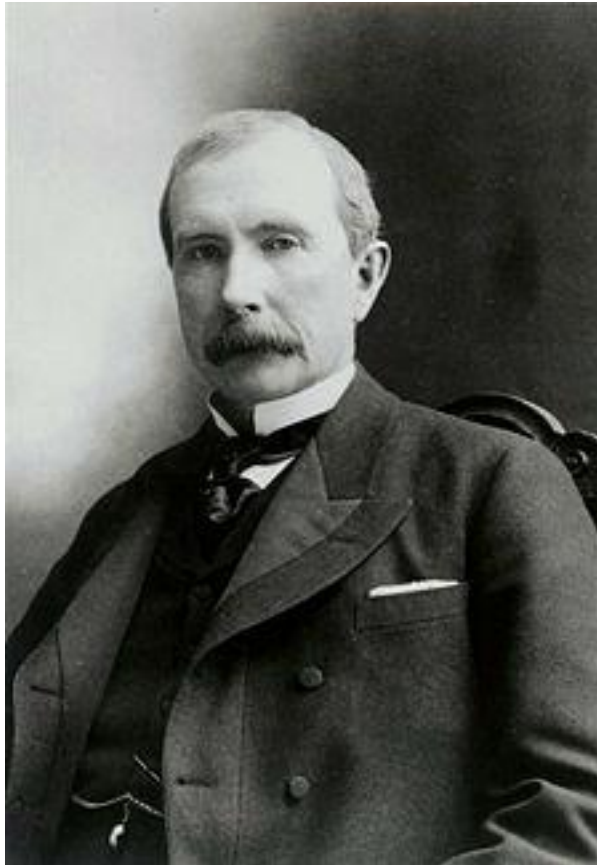




Industrial Growth

- End of the 19th c-beg of the 20th c – US became world's leading industrial power
- 1869 – first transcontinental railroad completed
- Standard Oil Company – John D. Rockefeller – petroleum industry
- Steel mills & iron mines – Andrew Carnegie (sold in 1901 for \$500 000 mln)

Industrial Growth



- **John Davison Rockefeller** (July 8, 1839 – May 23, 1937), an American industrialist and philanthropist, first American billionaire, and the richest person in history
- His fortune was mainly used to create the modern systematic approach of targeted philanthropy with foundations that had a major effect on medicine, education, and scientific research

Industrial Growth



- **Andrew Carnegie (1835-1919)**
- Carnegie donated nearly \$350 million to education, research, and art institutions, founded the Carnegie Technical Schools to make a contribution to both research and education; built Carnegie Hall, a grand concert hall, in New York City. Carnegie also founded a number of libraries throughout the US



Industrial Growth

- Inventions in electric industry – telephone, phonograph, light bulb, motion pictures, alternating current motor and transformer)
- Chicago – Louis Sullivan – steelframe construction – skyscraper
- US – hospitable to inventors, free enterprise

Industrial Growth



Sullivan and Adler

Auditorium
Building,
Chicago, 1887-89



Industrial Growth

- “Trusts” – huge combinations of corporations – monopolies (oil industry)
- Efficient production and cheap goods, but destroyed smaller competitors and set high prices for transportation of agricultural produce
- 1890 – government regulation – Sherman Antitrust Act (banned trusts, mergers and business agreements)



Overseas Expansion

- 1867 – Alaska bought (from Russia)
- “Anglo-Saxon duty” - benefits of Western civilization to Asia, Africa, Latin America
- 1895 – revolt against Spanish colonialism in Cuba – Spanish-American war
- USA acquired Cuba, the Philippines, Puerto Rico and Guam + Hawaiian Islands
- 1902 – US left Cuba (naval bases); 1959 – Hawaii – 50th state of USA;



World War I

- WW I – President Wilson – policy of strict neutrality
- America sold munitions and goods to the allies (on credit)
- April 1917 – Wilson asked Congress for a declaration of war; US took part in it
- Wilson – the Fourteen Points (open diplomacy, freedom of the seas, free international trade, disarmament, just settlements of colonial disputes)- view of a post-war world that could avoid another terrible conflict

World War I



Thomas Woodrow Wilson

(December 28, 1856 – February
3, 1924)

28th President of the USA

Awarded with the
Nobel Peace Prize in 1919.



World War I

- Armistice declared on Nov 11, 1918
- 1919 – Wilson took part in drafting the peace treaty in Versailles
- League of Nations was established, but USA never ratified Versailles treaty and never joined the League of nations for fear of being dragged into another foreign war



Isolation and Prosperity

- After 1920 USA turned inward and withdrew from European affairs
- 1919 – Red Scare bombings (anarchists, socialists and communists deported or arrested)
- 1920 – Prohibition –alcoholic beverages outlawed; speakeasies (illegal bars)
- Ku Klux Klan -1915 – terrorized blacks, Catholics, Jews and immigrants



Isolation and Prosperity

- Flowering of black literature = the “Harlem Renaissance”; jazz – George Gershwin
- 1925 – “monkey trial” –John T.Scopes prosecuted for teaching Darwin’s theory in Tennessee public school (clash between modern ideas and traditional values)



Isolation and Prosperity

- 1920s – golden years for prosperity for business; businessman – a popular hero
- Henry Ford – assembly line in automobile production – Model T
- Fatal mistakes: overproduction of crops depressed food prices, not enough purchasing power to buy goods, prices of shares higher than their real value

Isolation and Prosperity



Henry Ford
and
his Model T car



Great Depression

- Oct 29, 1929 – “Black Tuesday” – New York Stock Exchange lost \$9 billion – the beginning of Great Depression – worst economic crisis of modern times
- By 1932 many banks and businesses failed, industrial production cut in half, farm income had fallen by more than half, wages decreased 60%, one out of every four workers - unemployed



Great Depression

- 1932 – Democrat Franklin D. Roosevelt (FDR)
– 32 President –elected 4 times
- A New Deal Program; “The only thing to fear is fear itself”; fireside chats on the radio; “Hundred Days” (laws to recover economy)
- WPA (Works Progress Administration) – one of the most effective measures – Puritan ideas of work as honorable occupation
- Full economic recovery – defense buildup before WW II



Great Depression



Franklin Delano
Roosevelt (FDR)
(1882-1945)
32 President of the
USA

Elected 4 times

PBS

The PBS logo graphic, consisting of three overlapping squares (yellow, red, and blue) with a black crosshair, is positioned to the left of the text.

American Experience series

Online films about American History
(including Great Depression)

<http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/americanexperience/films/?film-online>