



# STANDARD 11

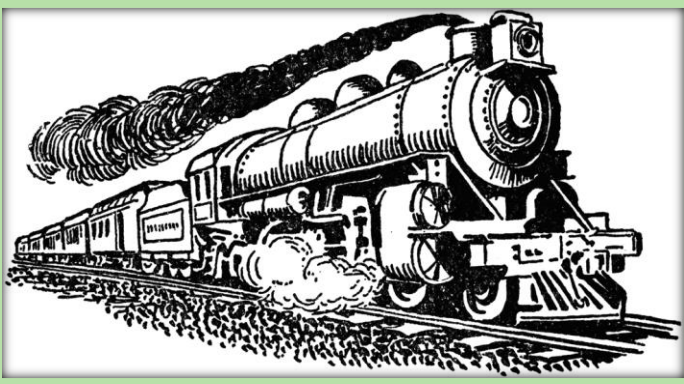
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# SSUS11

- The student will describe the economic, social and geographic impact of the growth of big business and technological innovations after Reconstruction.

# SSUSH11a

- Explain the impact of the railroads on other industries, such as steel, and on the organizations of big business.



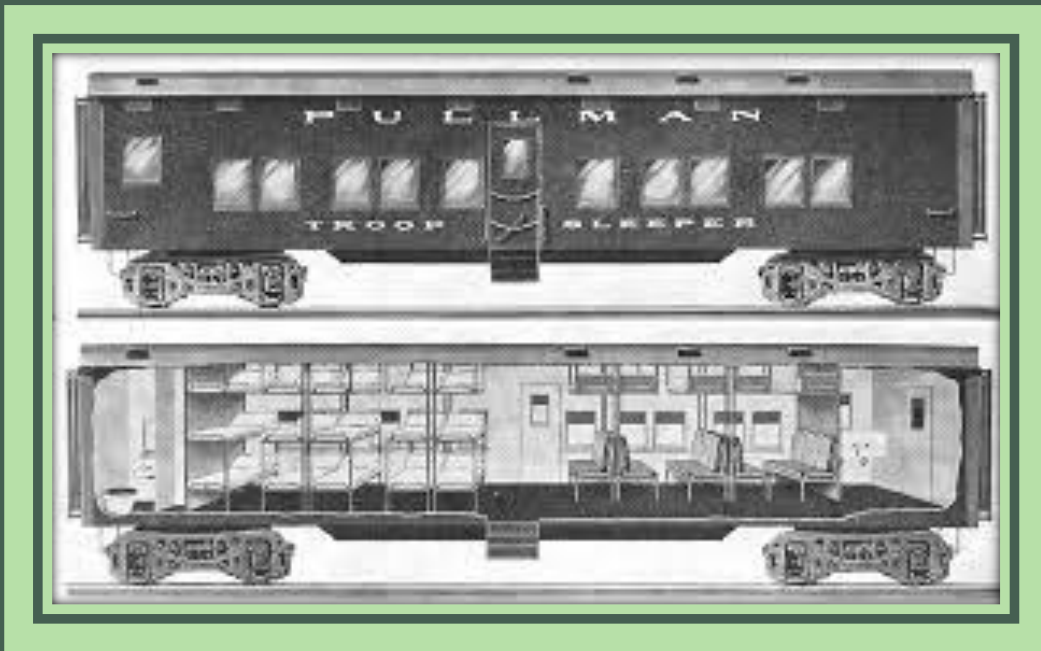
How might railroads impact other industries?

# Impact of Railroads

- Needed steel to lay thousands of miles of track
- Steel companies began to develop cheap and efficient methods for mass production of steel rails
  - Bessemer Process-first inexpensive industrial process for the mass-production of steel from molten pig iron by removing impurities from the iron by oxidation with air being blown through the molten iron.
- Cheap steel enable more companies to afford to stell

# Pullman Sleeping Car

- Comfort for long distance traveling
- Glass for windows
- Wood for construction
- Bedding for sleeping
- Need for better braking systems and traffic control
- Creation of time zones



# Organization of Big Business

- Huge amounts of capital were needed which led to public (government) and private investments
- Large professionally trained managerial staff were needed to keep up with passengers, cargo and equipment
- New means of accounting were created to track profits and cost margins
- Consolidations of smaller railroads creating monopolies
  - Larger firms would control market which forced smaller firms to sell

# SSUHS11b

- Describe the impact of the railroads in the development of the West; include the transcontinental railroad, and the use of Chinese labor.

Council Bluff, Iowa to Sacramento, CA  
Transcontinental Railroad



# Immigrant Labor Built the Railroads

- Irish and German laborers constructed the rail route from east to west.
- Central Pacific Railroad--Transcontinental Railroad in 1869
  - recruited European immigrants but lost many laborers to those in search of gold
  - Replaced Europeans with Chinese labor in California
  - Europeans paid \$50 and Chinese paid \$28-\$35
  - Many Chinese immigrants died due to blasting accidents and land slides

Why do you think the Chinese did not seek gold opportunities like the Europeans?





# Development of the West

- Land grants to railroad owners
- Rail companies could sale land to fund the cost of expanding rails
- Homestead Act of 1862
  - Many flocked to farm on fertile land
  - Farmers and herders used trains to transport goods
- Trains transported settlers west and goods east

# Homestead Act of 1862

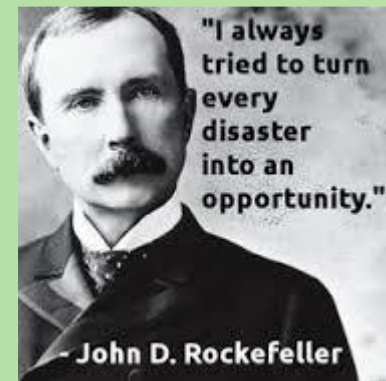
- Enacted during the Civil War in 1862
- Provided that any adult citizen, or intended citizen, who had never borne arms against the U.S. government could claim 160 acres of surveyed government land.



What could be some possible reasons for enacting the Homestead Act?

# SSUSH11c

- Identify John D. Rockefeller and the Standard Oil Company and the rise of trusts and monopolies



# Trust and Monopolies

## Trust

- A relationship whereby property is held by one party for the benefit of another.

## Monopolies

- A situation in which a single company or group owns all or nearly all of the market for a given type of product or service. By definition, monopoly is characterized by an absence of competition, which often results in high prices and inferior products.

# The Rise of Trusts and Monopolies

- Generated from the idea of maximizing profits by combining competing corporations into single entities.
- Allows companies to control prices, production and sales

# Robber Barons

- Individuals who gained wealth through “**QUESTIONABLE**” practices
  - Andrew Carnegie—Steel Company
  - Cornelius Vanderbilt and Jay Gould---Railroads
  - J P Moran---Banking and Finance
  - John D. Rockefeller—Standard Oil

# John D. Rockefeller (1839-1937)

- Standard Oil
- Refine oil in 1863
- Vertical Consolidation-  
purchase what you need to  
refine a natural resource to  
produce and distribute  
product
- By 1879 Standard Oil  
controlled 90%



# SSUSH11d

- Describe the inventions of Thomas Edison; include the electric light bulb, motion pictures and phonograph and their impact on American life.







HOW WOULD LIFE BE WITHOUT THE LIGHTBULB,  
MOTION PICTURE OR THE PHONOGRAPH?

# Electricity

- Thomas Edison

- Light bulb
- Phonograph
- Motion Picture
- Industrial Research
  - Advanced the need for science and engineering

- Benefits

- Led to the development of machines that made life easier-home appliances
- Replaced steam to power factories
- Replace human labor
- Street Cars replace horse drawn carriages
- Street lights



# FORMATIVE ASSESSMENT

Choose 1 : Rail Roads, Electricity, Standard Oil, Immigrants

How did \_\_\_\_\_ impact the  
growing United States?