

U.S. History
Moyer

Notes: The Growth of Industry

After the Civil War, the United States was still a mostly rural nation. By the 1920s, it had become the leading industrial nation of the world. This immense change was caused by three major factors.

*Factor 1: Abundant Natural Resources

1. Which resources played crucial roles in industrialization?

oil, coal, iron

2. How did Edwin I. Drake help industry to acquire larger quantities of oil?

1859 - steam engine to drill for oil

- remaining oil from beneath earth's surface
- became practical

3. How did the Bessemer process allow better use of iron ore?

Iron - a dense metal, but soft (tends to break & rust)

- usually contains other elements like carbon

- the process used a cheap & effic. way to make iron into steel

4. What new uses for steel were developed at this time?

- R.R. (biggest use) - bridges

- barbed wire - skyscrapers

- farm machinery

*Factor 2: Increasing Number of Inventions

1. How did Thomas Alva Edison contribute to this development?

1876 - est. world's 1st research lab in Menlo Park, NJ

- perfected incandescent light bulb (patented 1880)

- later invented an entire system for producing & distributing

elec power

2. How did George Westinghouse contribute to it?
- added innovations that made electricity safer & less expensive

3. How did Christopher Sholes contribute?

1867 - invented typewriter } created new jobs for women

4. How did Alexander Graham Bell contribute?

1876 - invented the telephone

*Factor 3: Expanding Urban Population

1. Provided cheap labor for new products

2. Provided new markets for new products

Industrial Revol. (late 19th c.) led to unprecedented levels of productivity. The ability to produce more Americans & better goods - from food & clothing to automobile. greatly Add human wealth.

CAUSES

- Nation has wealth of natural resources
- Explosion of inventions improve business and manufacturing efficiency
- Growing urban population provides workers and markets
- Railroads establish new markets

Industrial Growth

EFFECTS

- Big business emerges
- Business consolidates under monopolies and trusts
- Workers endure harsh conditions
- Labor unions develop