The Gilded Age

The industrialization of the United States led to new art and literature and new ideas about government’s role in society. Social Darwinists believed society developed through “survival of the fittest.” Other Americans thought steps needed to be taken to help the less fortunate.

Social Darwinism

Main Idea Individualism and Social Darwinism shaped Americans’ attitudes toward industrial society.

History and You Do you think each individual person should be left on his or her own to succeed, or should people help those who fall behind? Read to learn about people who applied the notion of “survival of the fittest” to human society.

In 1873 Mark Twain and Charles Warner wrote a novel entitled *The Gilded Age: A Tale of Today*. Historians later adopted the term and applied it to the era in American history that began about 1870 and ended around 1900. The era was in many ways a time of marvels. Amazing new inventions led to rapid industrial growth. Cities expanded to sizes never seen before. Masses of workers thronged the streets. Skyscrapers reached to the sky, electric lights banished the darkness, and wealthy entrepreneurs built spectacular mansions.

By calling this era the *Gilded Age*, Twain and Warner were sounding an alarm. Something is gilded if it is covered with gold on the outside but made of cheaper material inside. A gilded age might appear to sparkle, but critics pointed to corruption, poverty, crime, and great disparities in wealth between the rich and the poor.

Whether the era was golden or merely gilded, it was certainly a time of great cultural activity. Industrialism and urbanization altered the way Americans looked at themselves and their society, and these changes gave rise to new values, new art, and new entertainment.

The Idea of Individualism

One of the strongest beliefs of the era—and one that remains strong today—was the idea of individualism. Many Americans firmly believed that no matter how humble their origins, they could rise in society and go as far as their talents and commitment would take them. No one expressed the idea of individualism better than Horatio Alger, who wrote more than 100 “rags-to-riches” novels. In his books, a poor person goes to the big city and, through a combination of hard work and luck,
Social Darwinism

Another powerful idea of the era was Social Darwinism. This philosophy, loosely derived from Darwin’s theories, strongly reinforced the idea of individualism.

Herbert Spencer

British philosopher Herbert Spencer applied Charles Darwin’s theory of evolution and natural selection to human society. In his 1859 book On the Origin of Species by Means of Natural Selection, Darwin argued that plant and animal life had evolved over the years by a process he called natural selection. In this process, those species that cannot adapt to the environment in which they live gradually die out, while those that do adapt thrive and live on.

Spencer took this theory intended to explain developments over millions of years and argued that human society also evolved through competition and natural selection. He argued that society progressed and became better because only the fittest people survived. Spencer and others, such as American scholar William Graham Sumner, who shared his views, became known as Social Darwinists, and their ideas became known as Social Darwinism. “Survival of the fittest” became the catchphrase of their philosophy.

Social Darwinism also paralleled the economic doctrine of laissez-faire that opposed any government programs that interfered with business. Not surprisingly, industrial leaders heartily embraced the theory. John D. Rockefeller maintained that survival of the fittest, as demonstrated by the growth of huge businesses like his own Standard Oil, was “merely the working out of the law of nature and the law of God.”
Darwinism and the Church  For many devout Christians, however, Darwin’s conclusions were upsetting and offensive. They rejected the theory of evolution because they believed it contradicted the Bible’s account of creation. Some ministers, however, concluded that evolution may have been God’s way of creating the world. One of the most famous ministers of the era, Henry Ward Beecher, called himself a “Christian evolutionist.”

Carnegie’s Gospel of Wealth  Andrew Carnegie advocated a gentler version of Social Darwinism that he called the Gospel of Wealth. This philosophy held that wealthy Americans should engage in philanthropy and use their great fortunes to create conditions that would help people help themselves. Building schools and hospitals, for example, was better than giving handouts to the poor. Carnegie himself helped fund the creation of public libraries in cities across the nation because libraries provided the information people needed to get ahead in life.

Reading Check  Summarizing  What was the main idea of Social Darwinism?

A Changing Culture

MAIN Idea  Artists and writers began portraying life in America more realistically, and cities offered new forms of entertainment.

HISTORY AND YOU  Have you read Mark Twain’s The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn? Read to learn about how Twain portrayed American life in a realistic way.

The late 1800s was a period of great cultural change for writers and artists, and for many urban Americans who sought new forms of entertainment.

Realism

A new movement in art and literature called realism began in the 1800s. Just as Darwin tried to explain the natural world scientifically, artists and writers tried to portray the world realistically. European realists included Edgar Degas and Edouard Manet. Perhaps the best known American realist painter was Thomas Eakins. In realistic detail, he painted young men rowing and athletes playing baseball, and he showed surgeons and scientists in action.

Realism in Art and Literature

Realist writers and artists did not want to portray people and the world ideistically. Instead they sought to present things as accurately as possible.

Primary Source

“Say, who is you? Where is you? Dog my cats ef I didn’ hear sum’fin. Well, I know what I’s gwine to do: I’s gwine to set down here and listen till I hears it agin.”

So he set down on the ground betwixt me and Tom. He leaned his back up against a tree, and stretched his legs out till one of them most touched one of mine. My nose begun to itch. It itched till the tears come into my eyes. But I didn’t scratch. Then it begun to itch on the inside. Next I got to itching underneath. I didn’t know how I was going to get to set still. This miseryness went on as much as six or seven minutes; but it seemed a sight longer than that.”

—-from The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn
by Mark Twain

Realist painters did not generally choose heroic or historical topics for their art. Instead they preferred to depict ordinary people doing ordinary things. Thomas Eakins, perhaps the best-known American realist, depicted various aspects of American life, including a carriage ride by the wealthy (above) or a professional baseball game (right).
Writers also attempted to capture the world as they saw it. In several novels, William Dean Howells presented realistic descriptions of American life. For example, his novel *The Rise of Silas Lapham* (1885) described the attempts of a self-made man to enter Boston society. Also an influential literary critic, Howells was the first to declare **Mark Twain** an incomparable American genius.

Twain, whose real name was Samuel Clemens, published his masterpiece, *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, in 1884. In this novel, the title character and his friend Jim, an escaped slave, float down the Mississippi River on a raft. Twain wrote in local dialect with a lively sense of humor. He had written a true American novel, in which the setting, subject, characters, and style were clearly American.

**Popular Culture**

Popular culture changed considerably in the late 1800s. Industrialization improved the standard of living for many people, enabling them to spend money on entertainment and recreation. Increasingly, urban Americans divided their lives into separate units—that of work and that of home. People began “going out” to public entertainment.

**The Saloon** In cities, saloons often outnumbered groceries and meat markets. As a place for social gathering, saloons played a major role in the lives of male workers. Saloons offered drinks, free toilets, water for horses, and free newspapers for customers. They even offered the first “free lunch”: salty food that made patrons thirsty and eager to drink more. Saloons also served as political centers and saloonkeepers were often key figures in political machines.

**Amusement Parks and Sports** Working-class families and single adults could find entertainment at new amusement parks such as New York's Coney Island. Amusements such as water slides and railroad rides cost only a nickel or dime.

Watching professional sports also became popular during the late 1800s. Formed in 1869, the first professional baseball team was the Cincinnati Red Stockings. Other cities soon fielded their own teams. In 1903 the first official World Series was played between the Boston Red Sox and the Pittsburgh Pirates. Football also gained in popularity and by the late 1800s had spread to public colleges.

As work became less strenuous, many people looked for activities involving physical exercise. Tennis, golf, and croquet became popular. In 1891 James Naismith, athletic director for a college in Massachusetts, invented a new indoor game called basketball.

**Vaudeville and Ragtime** Adapted from French theater, vaudeville took on an American flavor in the early 1880s with its hodgepodge of animal acts, acrobats, and dancers. The fast-paced shows went on continuously all day and night.

Like vaudeville, ragtime music echoed the hectic pace of city life. Its syncopated rhythms grew out of the music of riverside honky-tonks, saloon pianists, and banjo players, using the patterns of African American music. Scott Joplin, one of the most important African American ragtime composers, became known as the “King of Ragtime.” He wrote his most famous piece, “The Maple Leaf Rag,” in 1899.

**Reading Check** Describing What was the importance of the saloon in city life?
Politics in Washington

MAIN Idea  The two major parties were closely competitive in the late 1800s; tariff rates and big business regulation were hotly debated political issues.

HISTORY AND YOU  Have you ever considered getting a job working for the government once you graduate? Read to learn why you will have to take an examination if you want a government job.

After President James A. Garfield was elected in 1880, many of his supporters tried to claim the "spoils of office"—the government jobs that are handed out following an election victory. President Garfield did not believe in the spoils system. One of these job seekers made daily trips to the White House in the spring of 1881 asking for a job. He was repeatedly rejected. Reasoning that he would have a better chance for a job if Vice President Chester A. Arthur were president, this man shot President Garfield on July 2, 1881. Weeks later, Garfield died from his wounds.

Civil Service Reform

For many, Garfield’s assassination highlighted the need to reform the political system. Traditionally, under the spoils system, elected politicians extended patronage—the power to reward supporters by giving them government jobs. Many Americans believed the system made government inefficient and corrupt. In the late 1870s, reformers had begun pushing him for an end to patronage.

When Rutherford B. Hayes became president in 1877, he tried to end patronage by firing officials who had been given their jobs because of their support of the party and replacing them with reformers. His actions divided the Republican Party between "Stalwarts" (who supported patronage) and the "_halfbreeds" (who opposed it), and no reforms were passed. In 1880 the Republicans nominated James Garfield, a "halfbreed," for president and Chester A. Arthur, a "Stalwart," for vice president. Despite the internal feud over patronage, the Republicans managed to win the election, only to have Garfield assassinated a few months later.

Garfield’s assassination turned public opinion against the spoils system. In 1883 Congress responded by passing the Pendleton Act. This law required that some jobs be filled by competitive written examinations, rather than through patronage. This marked the beginning of professional civil service—a system where most government workers are given jobs based on their qualifications rather than on their political affiliation. Although only about 10 percent of federal jobs were made civil service positions in 1883, the percentage steadily increased over time.

The Election of 1884

In 1884 the Democratic Party nominated Grover Cleveland, the governor of New York, for president. Cleveland was a reformer with a reputation for honesty. The Republican Party nominated James G. Blaine, a former Speaker of the House rumored to have accepted bribes. Some Republican reformers were so unhappy with Blaine that they supported Cleveland. They became known as “Mugwumps,” from an Algonquian word meaning “great chief.” If Blaine was their party’s candidate, declared the Mugwumps, they would vote for Cleveland, “an honest Democrat.”

Blaine hoped to make up for the loss of the Mugwumps by courting Catholic voters. Shortly before the election, however, Blaine met with a Protestant minister who denounced the Democrats for having ties to Catholicism. When Blaine was slow to condemn the remark, he lost many Catholic votes. Cleveland narrowly won the election.

As the first elected Democratic president since 1856, Grover Cleveland faced a horde of supporters who expected him to reward them with jobs. Mugwumps, on the other hand, expected him to increase the number of jobs protected by the civil service system. Cleveland chose a middle course and angered both sides. Economic issues, however, soon replaced the debate about patronage reform.

The Interstate Commerce Commission

Many Americans were concerned by the power of large corporations. Small businesses and farmers had become particularly angry at the railroads. While large corporations such as Standard Oil were able to negotiate rebates and lower rates because of the volume of goods they shipped, others were forced to pay much higher rates. Although the high fixed costs and low operating costs of railroads caused much
of this problem, many Americans believed railroads were gouging customers.

Neither party moved quickly at the federal level to address these problems. Both believed that government should not interfere with corporations’ property rights, which courts had held to be the same as those of individuals. Many states, however, passed laws regulating railroad rates; in 1886 the Supreme Court ruled in the case of Wabash, St. Louis, and Pacific Railway v. Illinois that states could not regulate railroad rates for traffic between states because only the federal government could regulate interstate commerce.

Public pressure forced Congress to respond to the Wabash ruling. In 1887 Cleveland signed the Interstate Commerce Act. This act, which created the Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC), was the first federal law to regulate interstate commerce. The legislation limited railroad rates to what was “reasonable and just,” forbade rebates to high-volume users, and made it illegal to charge higher rates for shorter hauls. The commission was not very effective in regulating the industry, however, because it had to rely on the courts to enforce its rulings.

**Debating Tariffs** Another major economic issue concerned tariffs. Many Democrats thought that Congress should cut tariffs because these taxes had the effect of raising the price of manufactured goods. Although it may have made sense to protect weak domestically manufactured after the Civil War, many questioned the need to maintain high tariffs in the 1880s, when large American companies were fully capable of competing internationally. High tariffs also forced other nations to respond in kind, making it difficult for farmers to export their surpluses.

In December 1887 President Cleveland proposed lowering tariffs. The House, with a Democratic majority, passed moderate tariff reductions, but the Republican-controlled Senate rejected the bill. With Congress deadlocked, tariff reduction became a major issue in the election of 1888.
Republicans Regain Power

The Republicans and their presidential candidate, Benjamin Harrison, received large campaign contributions in 1888 from industrialists who benefited from high tariffs. Cleveland and the Democrats campaigned against high tariff rates. In one of the closest races in American history, Harrison lost the popular vote but won the electoral vote.

The McKinley Tariff  The election of 1888 gave the Republicans control of both houses of Congress as well as the White House. Using this power, the party passed legislation to address points of national concern. In 1890 Representative William McKinley of Ohio pushed through a tariff bill that cut tobacco taxes and tariff rates on raw sugar but greatly increased rates on other goods, such as textiles, to discourage people from buying those imports.

The McKinley Tariff was intended to protect American industry from foreign competition and encourage consumers to buy American goods. Instead, it helped to trigger a steep rise in the prices of all goods, which angered many Americans and may have contributed to President Harrison’s defeat in the 1892 election.

The Sherman Antitrust Act  Congress also responded to popular pressure to do something about the power of the large business combinations known as trusts. In 1890 Congress passed the Sherman Antitrust Act, which prohibited any “combination . . . or conspiracy, in restraint of trade or commerce among the several States.” The law, however, was vaguely worded, poorly enforced, and weakened by judicial interpretation. Most significantly, the Supreme Court ruled the law did not apply to manufacturing, holding that manufacturing was not interstate commerce. Thus the law had little impact. In the 1890s businesses formed trusts and combinations at a great rate. Like the ICC, the Sherman Antitrust Act was more important for establishing a precedent than for its immediate impact.

Debates IN HISTORY

Is Social Darwinism the Best Approach for Ensuring Progress and Economic Growth?

The social problems that came with industrialization led to a debate over government’s role in the economy. Some believed that government should intervene to help the poor and solve problems while others argued that leaving things alone was the best solution.

Reading Check Summarizing  What actions did Congress take to regulate big business?
Challenging Social Darwinism

In 1879 journalist Henry George published *Progress and Poverty*, a discussion of the American economy that quickly became a national bestseller. In his book George observed, “The present century has been marked by a prodigious increase in wealth-producing power.” This should, he asserted, have made poverty “a thing of the past.” Instead, he claimed, the “gulf between the employed and the employer is growing wider; social contrasts are becoming sharper.” In other words, laissez-faire economics was making society worse—the opposite of what Social Darwinists believed.

Most economists now argue that George’s analysis was flawed. Industrialism did make some Americans very wealthy, but it also improved the standard of living for most others as well. At the time, however, in the midst of poverty, crime, and harsh working conditions, many Americans did not believe things were improving. George’s economic theories encouraged other reformers to challenge the assumptions of the era.

**Lester Frank Ward** In 1883 Lester Frank Ward published *Dynamic Sociology*, in which he argued that humans were different from animals because they had the ability to make plans to produce the future outcomes they desired.

Ward’s ideas came to be known as Reform Darwinism. People, he insisted, had succeeded in the world because of their ability to cooperate; competition was wasteful and time-consuming. Government, he argued, could regulate the economy, cure poverty, and promote education more efficiently than competition in the marketplace could.

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**YES**

**William Graham Sumner**

Professor

**Primary Source**

“The moment that government provided work for one, it would have to provide work for all, and there would be no end whatever possible. Society does not owe any man a living. In all the cases that I have ever known of young men who claimed that society owed them a living, it has turned out that society paid them—in the State prison... The fact that a man is here is no demand upon other people that they shall keep him alive and sustain him. He has got to fight the battle with nature as every other man has; and if he fights it with the same energy and enterprise and skill and industry as any other man, I cannot imagine his failing—that is, misfortune apart.”

—testimony before the U.S. House of Representatives, 1879

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**NO**

**Lester Frank Ward**

Sociologist

**Primary Source**

“The actions of men are a reflex of their mental characteristics. Where these differ so widely the acts of their possessors will correspondingly differ. Instead of all doing the same thing they will do a thousand different things. The natural and necessary effect of this is to give breadth to human activity. Every subject will be looked at from all conceivable points of view, and no aspect will be overlooked or neglected. It is due to this multiplicity of viewpoints, growing out of natural inequalities in the minds of men, that civilization and culture have moved forward along so many lines and swept the whole field of possible achievement.”

—from “Social Classes in the Light of Modern Sociological Theory,” 1908

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**DBQ Document-Based Questions**

1. **Summarizing** What argument does Professor Sumner make against government assisting people?
2. **Paraphrasing** How does Professor Ward believe that different abilities aid society?
3. **Contrasting** How can you contrast the ideas of the two men?
4. **Evaluating** Which opinion do you agree with? Write a brief essay explaining your ideas.
Jane Addams
1860–1935

After visiting a settlement house in London, England, Jane Addams decided to open Hull House in 1889 to assist poor immigrants in Chicago. That assistance took on many forms: day care, kindergartens, libraries, an art gallery, an employment agency, and a meeting place for trade unions. The women who worked at Hull House, many of them college-educated in social work, pushed for protective legislation for children and women, which was enacted first in Illinois and then nationally.

Addams wrote books about her experiences at Hull House, giving an example to many others throughout the nation who also founded settlement houses. She favored woman suffrage and supported the founding of the American Civil Liberties Union and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. She was active in the peace movement, serving as first president of the organization that became the Women’s International League for Peace and Freedom. For her efforts, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931.

What kind of assistance did Hull House provide immigrants?

Looking Backward  Writer Edward Bellamy promoted another alternative to Social Darwinism and laissez-faire economics. In 1888 he published Looking Backward, a novel about a man who falls asleep in 1887 and awakens in the year 2000 to find that the nation has become a perfect society with no crime, poverty, or politics. In this fictional society, the government owns all industry and shares the wealth equally with all Americans. Bellamy’s ideas were essentially a form of socialism. His book became a bestseller and helped to shape the thinking of some American reformers.

Naturalism in Literature  Criticism of industrial society also appeared in literature in a new style of writing known as naturalism. Social Darwinists argued that people could make choices to improve their situation. Naturalists challenged this idea by suggesting that some people failed in life simply because they were caught up in circumstances they could not control. Sometimes people’s lives were destroyed through no fault of their own.

Among the most prominent naturalist writers were Stephen Crane, Jack London, and Theodore Dreiser. Stephen Crane’s novel Maggie, A Girl of the Streets (1893), told the story of a girl’s descent into prostitution and death. Jack London’s tales of the Alaskan wilderness demonstrated the power of nature over civilization. Theodore Dreiser’s novels, such as Sister Carrie (1900), painted a world where people sinned without punishment and where the pursuit of wealth and power often destroyed their character.

Helping the Urban Poor

The plight of the urban poor prompted some reformers to find new ways to help. Their efforts gave rise to the Social Gospel movement, the Salvation Army, the YMCA, and settlement houses.

The Social Gospel  The Social Gospel movement worked to better conditions in cities according to the biblical ideals of charity and justice. Washington Gladden, a minister, was an early advocate who popularized the movement in writings such as Applied Christianity (1887). Walter Rauschenbusch, a Baptist minister from New York, became the leading voice in the Social Gospel movement.
The Church, he argued, must “demand protection for the moral safety of the people.” The Social Gospel movement inspired many churches to take on new community functions. Some churches built gyms and provided social programs and child care. Others focused exclusively on helping the poor.

The Salvation Army and the YMCA  The Salvation Army and the YMCA also combined faith and an interest in reform. The Salvation Army offered practical aid and religious counseling to the urban poor. The Young Men’s Christian Association (YMCA) tried to help industrial workers and the urban poor by organizing Bible studies, citizenship training, and group activities. YMCAs, or “Ys,” offered libraries, gymnasiums, auditoriums, and low-cost hotel rooms available on a temporary basis to those in need.

The head of the Chicago YMCA, Dwight L. Moody, was a gifted preacher who founded his own church, today known as Moody Memorial Church. By 1867, Moody had begun to organize revival meetings in other American cities, which drew thousands of people. Moody rejected both the Social Gospel and Social Darwinism. He believed the way to help the poor was not by providing them with services but by redeeming their souls and reforming their character.

The Settlement House Movement  The settlement house movement began as an offshoot of the Social Gospel movement. In the late 1800s idealistic reformers—including many college-educated women—established settlement houses in poor, often heavily immigrant neighborhoods. A settlement house was a community center where reformers resided and offered everything from medical care and English classes to kindergartens and recreational programs. Jane Addams opened the famous Hull House in Chicago in 1889. Her work inspired others, including Lillian Wald, who founded the Henry Street Settlement in New York City.

Public Education  As the United States became increasingly industrialized and urbanized, it needed more workers who were trained and educated. The number of public schools increased dramatically after the Civil War. The number of children attending school rose from 6,500,000 in 1870 to 17,300,000 in 1900. Public schools were often crucial to the success of immigrant children. At public schools, immigrant children were taught English and learned about American history and culture, a process known as Americanization.

Schools also tried to instill discipline and a strong work ethic. Grammar schools divided students into grades and drilled them in punctuality, neatness, and efficiency—necessary habits for the workplace. At the same time, vocational education in high schools taught skills required in specific trades.

Not everyone had access to school. Cities were far ahead of rural areas. Many African Americans also did not have equal educational opportunities. Some African Americans started their own schools, following the example of Booker T. Washington, who founded the Tuskegee Institute in 1881.

Vocabulary
1. Explain the significance of Gilded Age, individualism, Social Darwinism, Gospel of Wealth, philanthropy, Mark Twain, Social Gospel, settlement house, Jane Addams, Americanization.

Main Ideas
2. Defining What were the defining characteristics of the Gilded Age?
3. Describing How did changes in art and literature reflect the issues and characteristics of the late 1800s?
4. Explaining Why was the Sherman Antitrust Act ineffective?
5. Categorizing Complete a chart like the one below by listing the names and goals of reform movements that arose in the late 1800s to help the urban poor.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Reform Movement</th>
<th>Goals</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Critical Thinking
6. Big Ideas Do you think the idea of the Gospel of Wealth is still alive today? Why or why not?
7. Analyzing Visuals Look at the cartoon on the right on page 235. What do the figures in the background suggest?

Writing About History
8. Descriptive Writing Imagine that you are a newspaper editor in the late 1800s. Write an editorial in which you support or oppose the philosophy of Social Darwinism.

History ONLINE Study Central™ To review this section, go to glencoe.com and click on Study Central.
In his exposé of urban poverty, How the Other Half Lives (1890), Jacob Riis documented the living conditions in New York City tenements:

“The statement once made a sensation that between seventy and eighty children had been found in one tenement. It no longer excites even passing attention, when the sanitary police report counting 101 adults and 91 children in a Crosby Street house, one of twins, built together. The children in the others, if I am not mistaken, numbered 89, a total of 180 for two tenements! Or when midnight inspection in Mulberry Street unearths a hundred and fifty “lodgers” sleeping on filthy floors in two buildings. In spite of brown-stone fittings, plate-glass and mosaic vestibule floors, the water does not rise in summer to the second story, while the beer flows unchecked to the all-night picnics on the roof. The saloon with the side-door and the landlord divide the prosperity of the place between them, and the tenant, in sullen submission, foots the bill.”

VERBATIM

“Tell 'em quick, and tell 'em often.”

William Wrigley, soap salesman and promoter of chewing gum, on his marketing philosophy

“A pushing, energetic, ingenious person, always awake and trying to get ahead of his neighbors.”

Henry Adams, historian, describing the average New Yorker or Chicagoan

“We cannot all live in cities, yet nearly all seem determined to do so.”

Horace Greeley, newspaper editor

INDICATORS:

Livin’ in the City

Moving off the farm for a factory job? Sharpen your pencil. You’ll need to budget carefully to buy all you will need.

Here are the numbers for a Georgia family of four in 1890. The husband is a textile worker, and the wife works at home. There is one child, age 4, and a boarder. They share a two-room, wood-heated, oil-lighted apartment.

INCOME: (annual)

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<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Amount</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Husband's income</td>
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<tr>
<td>Boarder's rent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Total income</td>
<td>$322.00</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

EXPENSES: (annual)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
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</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medical</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Furniture</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clothing</td>
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<td>Rent</td>
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<tr>
<td>Flour/meal</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hog products</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other meat</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vegetables</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lard</td>
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<td>Potatoes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Butter</td>
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<tr>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>Alcohol</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tobacco</td>
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<tr>
<td>Molasses</td>
<td>$2.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Other food</td>
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<tr>
<td>Miscellaneous</td>
<td>$68.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total expenses</td>
<td>$382.40</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Milestones

ON THE RUN, 1881. THE JESSE JAMES GANG, after robbing a Chicago, Rock Island, and Pacific train near Winston, Missouri, and killing the conductor and a passenger.

OVERTURNED, 1878. BY THE SUPREME COURT, a Louisiana court decision that awarded damages to an African American woman who had been refused admission to a steamship stateroom reserved for whites.

PLAGUED BY GRASSHOPPERS, 1874. THE AMERICAN GREAT PLAINS. Insect swarms a mile wide blot out the midday sun. Two inches deep on the ground, they leave “nothing but the mortgage,” as one farmer put it.

CELEBRATED IN EUROPE, 1887. ANNIE OAKLEY, star of Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show. Oakley shot a cigarette from the lips of Crown Prince Wilhelm of Germany. Years later, when the U.S. goes to war against Kaiser Wilhelm, Oakley will quip: "I wish I’d missed that day!

REMOVED, 1884. IDA B. WELLS, journalist and former slave, from a ladies coach on a train. Wells refused to move to the smoking car where African Americans were to be seated.

ARRESTED, 1872. SUSAN B. ANTHONY, for casting a ballot in Rochester, New York. Anthony argued that the Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments applied to women.

CRITICAL THINKING

1. Analyzing Visuals Look at the Jacob Riis photo of an urban family and the photo of a New York City street. What do the pictures tell you about urban life in the 1890s?

2. Comparing What character traits do you think Ida B. Wells and Susan B. Anthony may have shared?