

# Chapter 6 Section 3

The Challenge of the cities

# Decline in Farms

- Between 1880 and 1910 the number of people living on farms fell from  $\frac{3}{4}$  to  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the population. (new machines replaced the need for manual labor)



# Move North

- Many black Southerners moved to Northern cities to escape racial violence against them.
- Also because crops were destroyed by bugs (Boil Weevil) and floods.



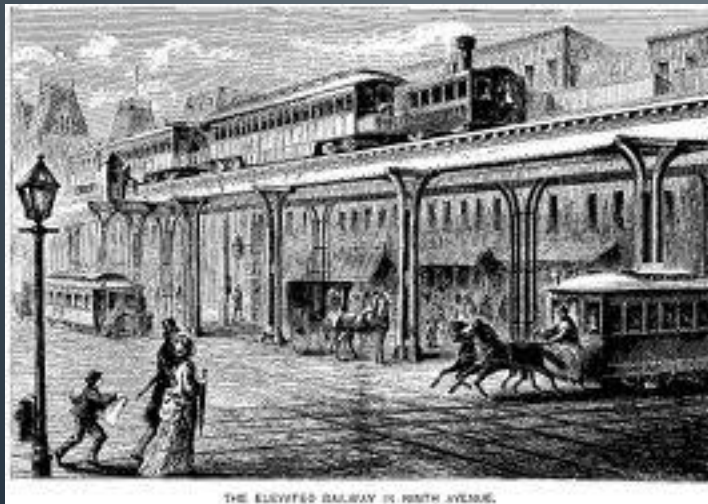
# Suburbs

- Residential communities surrounding the cities that those who could afford it lived in. (Fare for public horse-drawn carriage)



# Transportation

- New methods of transportation made commuting to the suburbs easier.
- Elevated Trains (Above congested streets in New York -1868)
- Cable Cars (San Francisco – 1873)



- Electric Trolleys (Richmond, VA – 1888)
- Subway Trains (Boston 1897)
- Automobiles invented 1893 ( Mass produced in 1910's)



# Taller Buildings

- Buildings got higher because they ran out of urban space (Before the Civil War no more than 5 stories)



# First Skyscraper

- 1885 in Chicago. (Insurance Company)
- 10 Stories high.
- Iron and Steel Framework.
- 4 passenger elevators. (Invented in 1853)





# Expanding Cities

- Specialized areas emerged within cities. ( Retail shops in one area, banks and Govt. offices, industrial and warehouse district, etc. )



# Tenements

- Low-cost apartment buildings designed to house as many families as the owner could pack in.



# Slums

- A group of dirty, run-down tenements turned an area into a slum.



# Conditions in the Slums

- Hundreds crammed into space meant for a few families.
- Soot from coal in machines made the air dark and foul (Even in daylight)
- Open sewers attracted rats and other disease spreading vermin.



# Fire

- Fire was a huge danger because tenement buildings were so closely packed together that fires spread quickly. (Consuming whole neighborhoods)



# Great Chicago Fire (1871)

- 18,000 buildings burned.
- 250 dead.
- 100,000 homeless.
- \$2 Billion damage. (In today's money)
- A similar fire a year later in Boston.



# Contagious Diseases

- Crowded tenement conditions allowed diseases (Like Yellow Fever) to spread quickly in one area.
- (In NYC 6 out of 10 babies died before their first birthday)



# Other Diseases

- Cholera
- Malaria
- Tuberculosis
- Diphtheria
- Typhoid (Prairie Fever)





# Ghettos

- An area in which one ethnic or racial group dominated. (From WWII – Jews)
- The comfort of familiar language and traditions.
- Protection. (Could get beat up if you passed a street boundary)



# Restrictive Covenants

- Agreements among homeowners not to sell land or houses in the better neighborhoods to certain people.
- African Americans, Mexicans, Asian Americans, Jews.



# “How the other half lives”

- Book about the horrors of tenement life.
- Made Americans aware of poverty in cities.
- Got New York to change laws to improve them.



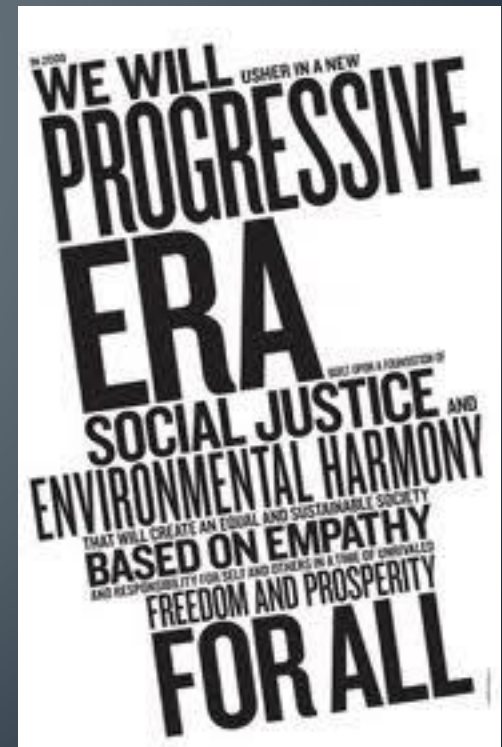
# Gap

- Gap between the rich and the poor got bigger.  
(Middle and upper class lived in nice areas of city or moved to the suburbs)



# Improvements

- City officials began to provide:
  - Police and Fire protection
  - Transportation systems
  - Sewage Disposal
  - Electric and Water service
  - Health Care



# Political Machine

- An unofficial city organization designed to keep a particular group in power.
- Usually headed by a single powerful “Boss”.



# Intimidation and Bribery

- Political Machines worked through the exchange of favors.
- Gave out city jobs and contracts in exchange for support of their candidate on election day.



# Boss Tweed

- The notorious leader of the Tammany Hall political machine that ran New York City's Democratic Party.





# “Robbed” The City Treasury

- Tweed and his pals submitted false receipts and persuaded businesses to pay him for nonexistent services.



# Essay

- Imagine you live in the slums of Chicago in the early 1900's. Write one page describing your life and the challenges you face. **Be sure to include at least 5 facts from the section and underline them.**