



HISTORY AND GEOGRAPHY 1106

UNITED STATES INVOLVEMENT AT HOME AND ABROAD

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Alpha Omega Publications®

804 N. 2nd Ave. E., Rock Rapids, IA 51246-1759

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HISTORY 1106

UNITED STATES INVOLVEMENT AT HOME AND ABROAD

The United States, largely an agricultural nation, experienced great changes as the Industrial Revolution reached her shores. The constant development of labor-saving devices for both the farm and the factory revolutionized the way of life in the United States, giving place to new national trends such as the moves from country to city, from home to factory, and from small business to booming corporation. Interest in the United States centered around the nation itself in those formative years as it strove to become economically sound and prosperous. However, as it developed into a powerful industrial giant, the United States was forced to turn its eyes outward, leaving its policy of noninvolvement in world affairs and becoming increasingly active in international concerns.

You will study these changing years for the United States that transformed our nation into a mighty world power. You will study the development of the United States as an industrial nation from small New England shipyards to massive corporations, and you will note the frustrations and victories of industrial growth. You will examine the movement of the United States out of **isolationism** into world involvement as the country expanded its activity in the Western Hemisphere. Finally, you will observe the problems in Europe and the options of the United States before the First World War.

The years of economic and international expansion were filled with testing and triumphs and ended with our nation's exciting leap into world leadership. Hopefully, you will be caught up in the excitement of the growth and expansion in the United States and abroad, factors that helped make the United States the prosperous nation we enjoy today.

OBJECTIVES

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAC®.

When you have finished this LIFEPAC, you should be able to:

1. Describe the resources the United States possessed for industrial growth.
2. List the inventions and improvements that provided early industrial growth in the United States.
3. Describe the factors involved in the development of the factory system in the United States.
4. List the new developments in industrial power, transportation, and communication during the late 1800s and early 1900s.
5. Describe the development and effects of corporations on the United States.
6. Explain living and working conditions of a factory worker in an industrial center.
7. Describe the development and effects of the labor movement in the United States on employers and employees.
8. Explain the provisions and effects of the Monroe Doctrine.
9. List the causes and battles of the Spanish-American War.
10. Describe the effects and changes that the American-Cuban victory in the Spanish-American War brought to both victors.
11. Describe the United States' foreign policies in the Caribbean and the Far East.

12. Describe Theodore Roosevelt's influence in converting the status of the United States from isolation to world leadership.
13. Describe the part nationalism played in the growing friction between nations in the late 1800s and early 1900s.
14. Explain the growth of militarism in the leading nations of the world.
15. Compare and contrast the Triple Alliance and Triple Entente.

Survey the LIFE PAC. Ask yourself some questions about this study. Write your questions here.



I. U.S. INDUSTRY

Although United States industry had its roots in early New England shipyards and trading ventures, it had not yet experienced the great surge in production and distribution that British industry had witnessed. New inventions and production methods were revolutionizing British industry, multiplying production, reducing costs, and providing greater availability of goods. As Great Britain reaped the benefits of its Industrial Revolution, it tried to keep British inventions and methods to itself. In time, British inventions reached other countries and eventually they were taken across the Atlantic Ocean to a young nation that had not begun to realize its own industrial potential.

SECTION OBJECTIVES

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Describe the resources the United States possessed for industrial growth.
2. List the inventions and improvements that provided early industrial growth in the United States:
 - 2.1 In the agricultural industry.
 - 2.2 In the transportation field.
 - 2.3 In the communication field.
 - 2.4 In national affairs.
3. Describe the factors involved in the development of the factory system in the United States.
4. List the new developments in industrial power, transportation, and communication during the late 1800s and early 1900s.

VOCABULARY

Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.

| | |
|----------------------------|--|
| internal combustion | A heat engine in which the fuel burns inside the engine itself |
| isolationism | A policy of noninvolvement in world affairs |
| monopoly | The exclusive control of a commodity or production by a business |
| standardized parts | Parts are uniform so they can be substituted interchangeably |

Note: All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAAC appear in **boldface** print the first time they are used. If you are unsure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.

U.S. INDUSTRY: BIRTH AND GROWTH

If any nation was ever prepared for a revolution of industry, it was the United States. Few nations have possessed an abundance and availability of resources equal to that of the United States. When the Industrial Revolution crossed the Atlantic, the setting and timing favored the United States.

Natural American setting. For industry to flourish, certain requirements are demanded. Without these basic building blocks, industry's development is stifled. In the young United States, industry's needs were met with abundant resources and labor.

Industry constantly demands a rich supply of raw materials from which to draw. The arrival of the Industrial Revolution in the United States necessitated intelligent use of our nation's natural resources. The seemingly limitless supply of natural energy-producing materials gave the industrial United States a gigantic surge that even Britain could not equal.

Power to run factories and machines was readily available in the United States. Not only did rich coal fields lie beneath the fertile soil of the Atlantic coastal states, but numerous rivers and streams also provided powerful energy sources. In addition, the United States possessed other raw materials vital for industry such as great iron and oil deposits. These abundant stores of raw materials went virtually unused until the coming of the Industrial Revolution.

The variety of land and climate in the United States made possible the growth of numerous types of crops. The southern United States in particular favored successful large-scale agriculture. Agriculture became the South's leading industry. Vast Southern plantations sprang up early in our nation's history, bringing large profits and welcome trade.

To take advantage of these natural resources, however, workers were needed for management and production. Unlike Britain and Europe, the United States had a continuous supply of potential factory workers. While some farmers and artisans entered industry, many chose to remain independent. However, the great inflow of immigrants into the United States consisted of untrained laborers. Many of these immigrants were thankful to have any job at all.

The major industrial ingredient essential for making all the natural resources, factory workers and managers fit together to form a profitable industry is capital. All the industrial potential in the world is useless unless the financial backing is secured for industry to originate and develop. The nation's businessmen must be willing to combine their assets in the new, unproved business ventures at a definite risk. Fortunately the United States had an ample supply of prosperous men who were willing to take the risk. New England businessmen, made wealthy from shipbuilding and trading ventures, were particularly excited about the potential for industry in the United States. Impressed by the accomplishments of the Industrial Revolution in Europe, and motivated by the lure of profits, these businessmen invested their capital hopefully.

