***Gilded Age Study Session***

**Social**

1. Urbanization
2. Crime
3. Mobs—maybe
4. Massive discrimination about African American, 1877-1900—nader of race relations in the U.S.
   1. Plessy v. Ferguson 1896
5. WWI
   1. Great Migration—blacks north for jobs
   2. Blacks go overseas to fight—see how other countries minorities live (better)
6. Chinese Exclusionary Act
7. Irish have now organized politically—no longer saying “no Irish need apply”—politicians have to try to get Irish vote
8. European Restriction Act
9. More women go to college than ever before—still very few, though
   1. The Awakening written during this time
   2. Elizabeth Blackwell—first woman doctor
10. Native Americans
    1. 1865-1893
    2. Colonel Shivington-Sand Creek—wiped out an entire tribe of Native Americans
    3. Custer’s Battle of Little Bighorn—Crazy Horse wipes out troops
    4. Wounded Knee—army wiped out many tribes
    5. “Kill the Indian to Save the Man”
    6. Carlisle School—to make Indians white
    7. Helen Hunt Jackson—*A Century of Dishonor*
    8. Chief Joseph—“I will fight no more forever”
    9. Dawes Severalty Act (1887)
11. Leisure activities
    1. Poor
       1. Amusement parks
       2. Prize fighting—boxing
       3. Vaudeville—variety shows
       4. Baseball
    2. Middle class
       1. Tennis
       2. Croquet
       3. Music—recitals
       4. Poetry readings
       5. Intellectual
    3. Upper class
       1. Golf
       2. Polo
       3. Opera
       4. Ballet
12. Art
    1. Impressionist era
    2. Monet
    3. Mary Cassatt
    4. Also realism that mirrors realism of literature
13. Literature—realism and naturalism
    1. Mostly about portraying society as it is
    2. Mark Twain
    3. Horatio Alger stories—rags to riches
    4. Books and magazines even cheaper due to printed press improvements
14. Push for public education
    1. Make immigrants good factory workers and patriotic Americans
15. Prevailing attitude is Social Darwinism
    1. Goes along with laissez faire government
16. Andrew Carnegie—Gospel of Wealth
    1. Should use excess riches to help society
    2. Mainly middle class help though
17. Social Gospel
    1. Jesus helped the poor and so should we
    2. Salvation Army 1880

**Political**

1. Republican Party
   1. 1860-1933 except Cleveland and Wilson
   2. These were purposefully weak presidents
   3. Boss Tweed—Tammany Hall
2. Laissez faire—were they really?
   1. Rampant corruption
   2. Credit Mobilier—James Blaine etc
   3. Put down strikes
      1. Pullman Strike—Chicago –Cleveland says mail can’t get through
         1. Eugene Debs arrested and becomes a socialist
   4. Pendleton Act
      1. Garfield is assassinated because assassin didn’t get a government job
      2. Why did we need civil service reform?
         1. Inefficient gov’t—huge—without reform
3. Populist Party
   1. Result of corrupt business
   2. Rise out of Grange and Farmer’s Alliance movements
   3. Particularly successful in the Midwest
   4. Goals
      1. Demanded inflation through free and unlimited coinage of silver
      2. Called for a graduated income tax
      3. Government ownership of the railroads, telegraph, and telephone
      4. Direct election of senators
      5. One term limit on the presidency
      6. Adoption of the initiative and referendum to allow citizens to shape legislation more directly
      7. Shorter workday
      8. Immigration restriction
   5. Dies out by 1890s—unions vote Democrat
   6. Pendleton Act
      1. Gives big business and special interests more influence than the average joe
      2. Because now, politicians have to campaign—can’t just promise gov’t jobs
   7. Tom Watson and Ben Tillman lean Populist
      1. But they find that the Democrats use racism against them

**Economic**

1. Rise of American wealth
   1. No anti-trust laws
   2. Pools,
2. Rockefellers own 90% of all oil refineries in America
   1. Fields—refineries—railroad cars—kerosene cans
   2. Standord Oil—Esso—Exxon
3. Carnegie true rags to riches story
4. Huge income gaps
5. New management class—middle class ish
6. Labor Unions
   1. National Labor Union—first but not important
   2. Knights of Labor—most ideological
      1. Blacks and whites, women, skilled and unskilled workers
      2. Terrance Powderly—most famous leader
   3. Haymarket Affair in Chicago (1886)
      1. Some anarchists are involved—hurts labor unions
   4. American Federation of Labor—Samuel Gompers
      1. Working hours and conditions
      2. Not about social reform or letting all people
      3. White male skilled worker—period
   5. Mother Jones—organizes the coal miners
   6. IWW: Industrial Workers of the World—Wobblies
      1. Socialists, radical, willing to use violence, corporate espionage,
7. Gold versus Silver
   1. If rich, don’t want inflation—want million $ to buy as much in ten years as it does today
      1. Lender—invest in banks that lend money
   2. More money in circulation—more inflation
   3. Farmers want inflation—pay off debt
      1. Borrowers
      2. Want crop prices to be inflated
   4. Federal gov’t only issued money if it had that much money in reserve
      1. If one billion dollars in gold—can only issue one billion dollars worth of dollar bills
      2. Very finite amount of gold—farmers say back it with silver—much more silver

AIM: 1970s American Indian Movement—Wounded Knee