

Lesson 25: The Rise of Industry

Did the benefits of industrialization outweigh the costs?

25.3 The Rise of Big Business

- When Andrew Carnegie opened his first factory in 1865, most businesses were still owned by one person or a few partners.
- Because the owners' funds were limited, businesses were small. Owners knew their employees and often treated them like family.



25.3 The Rise of Big Business

- A partnership might work well for small businesses like a garment, or clothing, factory.
- However, big businesses, such as railroads, required much more capital (money to start a business) than a few partners could provide.



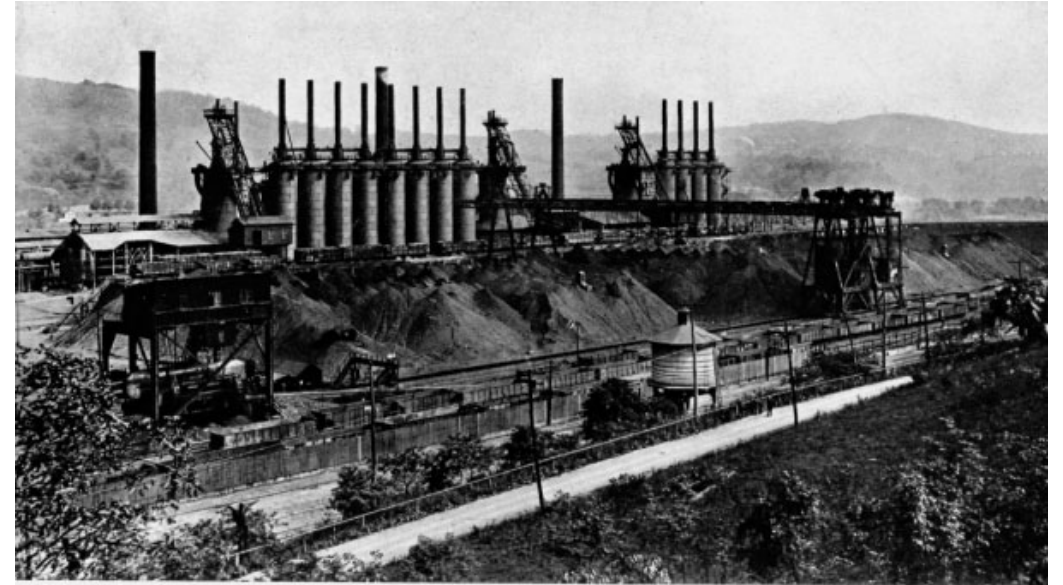
25.3 The Rise of Big Business

- To raise larger sums of money, entrepreneurs set up corporations.
- A corporation is a business that is owned by many investors, or people who help pay the business's initial expenses.



25.3 The Rise of Big Business

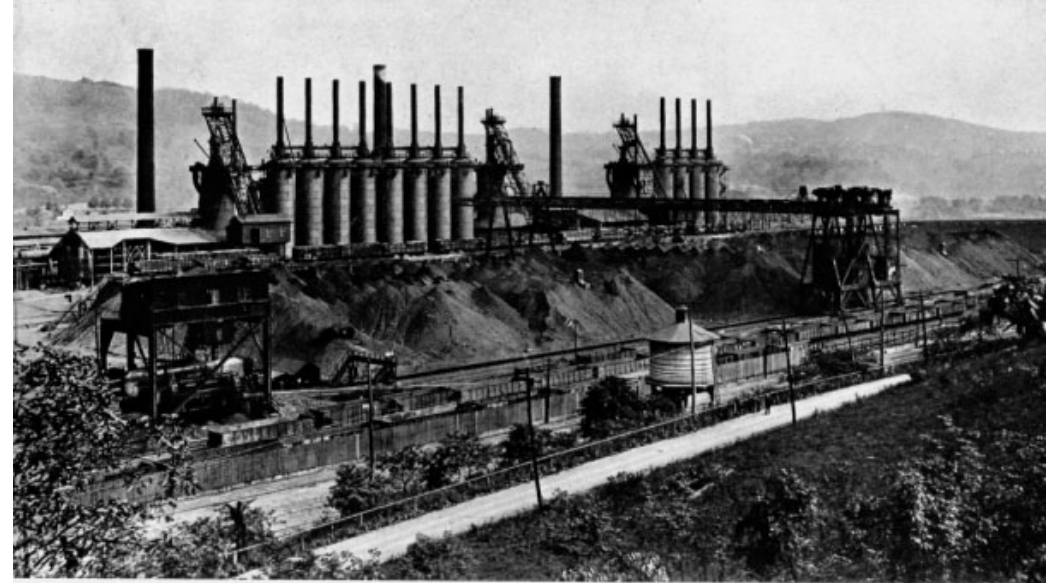
- People like Rockefeller and Carnegie grew their businesses by setting up corporations and trusts.
- They also took control of every step of their businesses.
 - For example, Rockefeller bought oil fields along with railroads, pipelines, ships, warehouses, and oil barrels.



BLAST FURNACE DEPARTMENT

25.3 The Rise of Big Business

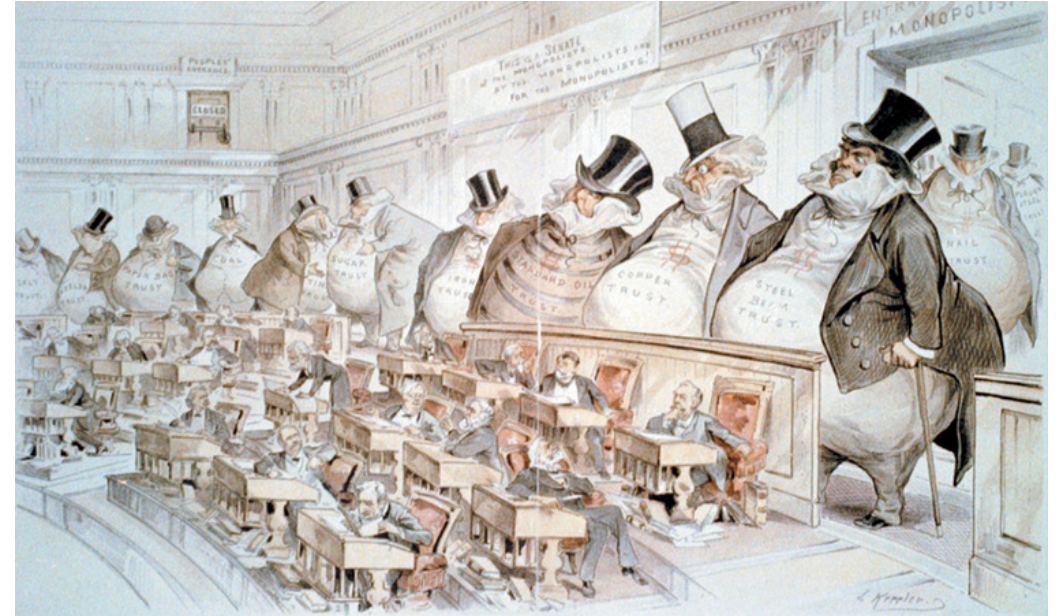
- To manage his many businesses, Rockefeller combined them into the Standard Oil Trust.
- The trust made the oil industry more efficient than ever before.
- But, as a monopoly, the trust had the power to control oil prices, which worried people who depended on oil in their homes and businesses.



BLAST FURNACE DEPARTMENT

25.3 The Rise of Big Business

- The growth of trusts alarmed many Americans who saw these monopolies as a threat to the free enterprise system.
- Henry Lloyd warned Americans that, “liberty and monopoly cannot live together.”
- Lloyd was referring to the influence of trusts on the political process and warning that wealthy entrepreneurs could use their wealth to buy elections and corrupt officials.



25.4 The Growth of Cities

- Industrialization brought with it urbanization, or city growth.
- Most of the nation's new industries were located in urban areas, causing immigrants and rural Americans to flock to these industrial centers looking for jobs.
- Chicago, for example, more than tripled its population between 1880 and 1900.



25.4 The Growth of Cities

- As urban populations increased, demand for cheap housing exploded.
- To meet this demand, developers threw up cheap apartment buildings called tenements, described by one person as “great prison-like structures of brick, with narrow doors and windows, cramped passages and steep, rickety stairs.”
- By 1900, about two-thirds of New Yorkers lived in such buildings.



25.4 The Growth of Cities

- Tenements were unclean and even dangerous places to live.
- Only a few rooms had windows to provide light and fresh air, while the rest were dark and airless.



25.4 The Growth of Cities

- Many tenements lacked sewer services, and the only source of water was a single faucet in a courtyard.
- In such conditions, diseases such as typhoid and cholera spread quickly, killing infants and young children.
- Fire was another constant worry.



25.4 The Growth of Cities

- As cities expanded, urban land costs shot up.
- Such prices inspired builders to construct more building space on less land by expanding upward.
- Using lightweight steel beams to support walls and ceilings, builders constructed skyscrapers that rose ten or more stories into the air.
- Electric elevators whisked people and freight effortlessly from floor to floor.



25.4 The Growth of Cities

- Businesspeople rented space in city skyscrapers for their offices and factories.
- Factory owners preferred the top floors because rents were cheaper higher up, and the natural light was better, saving owners money on electric lighting.
- The cost of insurance was low as well because steel buildings were thought to be fireproof.



25.4 The Growth of Cities

- Despite their problems, cities were also exciting places to live.
- Stores were filled with products never seen by people who had grown up on farms.
- City dwellers enjoyed all sorts of entertainment, from operas and art museums to dance halls and sporting events.



25.4 The Growth of Cities

Urbanization

Demand of cheap housing

Increase in cost of land

Construction of tenements

Building of skyscrapers

Dangerous conditions and quick spreading diseases

Space in skyscrapers rented to businesspeople

Deaths of children

Factories on the top floor of skyscrapers where space was cheapest