

Script

## IX. THE ERA OF BIG BUSINESS, 1878-1899

National consolidation of industry.

Trend toward monopoly; Western Union Telegraph  
Standard Oil Trust, 1882, etc.

Protectionism ascendant, 1883-97.

Application of electricity to industry. Invention  
rotary converter, and split-phase induction

Establishment of new industries; glucose, oleo, cash.  
~~Electrical apparatus and supplies. Great growth of~~  
industry due to roller process (1878) and middlings purifie..

Revolution in gas-making industry due to discovery of water-gas.

Southward and westward extension of manufacturing area.

Leading manufacturing nation of world by 1894.

Organization of employers' associations, beginning in 1886.

National consolidation of transportation plant.

Merger of trunk lines into five or six great railway systems

Beginnings of federal regulation. Interstate Commerce Law, 1887.

Decline of river and canal traffic.

National consolidation of labor.

Decline of Knights of Labor, 1878-86.

Rise of American Federation of Labor from 1881. Gompers' leadership.

Agitation for eight-hour day. Railroad strikes of 1885-86.

Labor disturbances of early nineties. At Homestead in 1892;  
Pullman in 1894.

Philosophy of discontent.

Great inequalities of wealth. Closing of free frontier.

Literary landmarks. Henry George's Progress and Poverty, 1879.  
Bellamy's Looking Backward, 1888. H. D. Lloyd's Wealth  
against Commonwealth, 1894.

Socialism in national politics after 1877. Socialist Labor Party.  
Propagandist activities.

