CHAPTER 20
Gilded Age Politics, 1877–1900

LEARNING OBJECTIVES
After you have studied Chapter 20 in your textbook and worked through this study guide chapter, you should be able to:

1. Discuss the characteristics of American politics at the national and state levels during the Gilded Age.
2. Discuss the major political and economic issues of the Gilded Age, and examine governmental action on these issues.
3. Explain the characteristics of American presidents during the Gilded Age, and discuss how each carried out the duties of his office.
4. Explain the social, economic, and political oppression of southern blacks during the late nineteenth century, and discuss the response of the Supreme Court to this oppression.
5. Examine the progress of the women’s suffrage movement during the Gilded Age.
6. Discuss the various forces affecting the lives of southern, midwestern, and western farmers during the late nineteenth century, and explain the social, economic, and political impact of these forces.
7. Explain the organizational and ideological development of rural activism from the Grange through the formation of the Populist party and the 1896 presidential election, and discuss the roadblocks encountered by the Populists.
8. Explain the causes and consequences of the depression of the 1890s, and evaluate Grover Cleveland’s response to the depression.
9. Discuss the nature and extent of working-class activism during the era of protest, and explain the reaction of government officials and the public to this activism.
10. Analyze the presidential campaign and election of 1896, and explain the political and economic significance of the outcome.

THEMATIC GUIDE
In Chapter 20, we focus on the interaction of the political, economic, and social forces within American society during the Gilded Age. This period is characterized by high public interest in local, state, and national elections, political balance between Democrats and Republicans at the national level, and factional and personal feuds within the two parties. Democrats and Republicans in Congress were split on the major national issues: sectional controversies, civil service reform, railroad regulation, tariff policy, and monetary policy. Though Congress debated these issues, factionalism, interest-group politics, and political equilibrium resulted in the passage of vaguely worded, ineffective legislation such as the Pendleton Civil Service Act, the Interstate Commerce Act, and the Sherman Anti-Trust Act. Combined with a conservative Supreme Court, weak presidential leadership, and political campaigns
that focused on issues of personality rather than issues of substance, these factors caused the postponement of decisions on major issues affecting the nation and its citizens.

The political impasse built up frustration within aggrieved groups in the nation. Southern blacks, who lived under the constant threat of violence and who remained economically dependent on whites, had to endure new forms of social oppression in the form of disfranchisement and “Jim Crow” laws. This oppression was, in turn, upheld by the Supreme Court, which interpreted the Fourteenth Amendment narrowly. Women were frustrated in their attempts to gain the right to vote by the sexist attitudes prevalent in the male-dominated power structures of the era. Aggrieved workers turned to organized labor, to strikes, and, at times, to violence (discussed in Chapter 18). Aggrieved farmers also began to organize. In “Agrarian Unrest and Populism,” we examine the reasons for agrarian discontent and trace the manifestation of that discontent from the Grange, through the Farmers’ Alliances, to the formation of the Populist party and the drafting of the Omaha platform in 1892.

The depression of the 1890s added to the woes of the United States. President Grover Cleveland failed to deal with the crisis effectively, and an air of crisis settled over the nation. Workers’ protests multiplied; the Socialist Party of America, under the leadership of Eugene V. Debs, reorganized; Coxey’s Army, demanding a federal jobs program, marched on the nation’s capital; and fear of social revolution led business owners and government officials to use brute force to control what they perceived to be radical protest.

As the crisis persisted, the Populist party gained ground but was hampered both by the reluctance of voters to abandon their loyalties to the two major parties and by issues of race. At the national level, Populists, convinced that the “money power” and its imposition of the gold standard on the nation was the root cause of farm distress and the nationwide depression, continued to call for a return of government to the people and crusaded for the “free and unlimited coinage of silver.”

The frustrations that had built up in the Gilded Age—an age of transition from rural to urban, from agrarian to industrial society—came to a head in the emotionally charged presidential contest of 1896. An analysis of the issues, outcome, and legacy of this election, which ended the political equilibrium of the age, is offered in the last section of the chapter.

BUILDING VOCABULARY

Listed below are important words and terms that you need to know to get the most out of Chapter 20. They are listed in the order in which they occur in the chapter. After carefully looking through the list, (1) underline the words with which you are totally unfamiliar, (2) put a question mark by those words of which you are unsure, and (3) leave the rest alone.

As you begin to read the chapter, when you come to any of the words you’ve put question marks beside or underlined (1) slow your reading; (2) focus on the word and on its context in the sentence you’re reading; (3) if you can understand the meaning of the word from its context in the sentence or passage in which it is used, go on with your reading; (4) if it’s a word that you’ve underlined or a word that you can’t understand from its context in the sentence or passage, look it up in a dictionary and write down the definition that best applies to the context in which the word is used.

Definitions

venality

obscure

partisan

avid
Difficult-to-Spell Names and Terms from Reading and Lecture

IDENTIFICATION AND SIGNIFICANCE
After studying Chapter 20 of *A People and a Nation*, you should be able to identify fully and explain the historical significance of each item listed below.

- Identify each item in the space provided. Give an explanation or description of the item. Answer the questions *who, what, where*, and *when*.
- Explain the historical significance of each item in the space provided. Establish the historical context in which the item exists. Establish the item as the result of or as the cause of other factors existing in the society under study. Answer this question: *What were the political, social, economic, and/or cultural consequences of this item?*
1. Mary Elizabeth Lease
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

2. James G. Blaine
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

3. the Stalwarts, the Half Breeds, and the Mugwumps
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

4. “waving the bloody shirt”
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

5. the Grand Army of the Republic
   a. Identification
   b. Significance
6. the Pendleton Civil Service Act
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

7. Munn v. Illinois
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

8. the Wabash case
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

9. the Interstate Commerce Act
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

10. the Maximum Freight Rate case
    a. Identification

    b. Significance
11. the *Alabama Midlands* case
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

12. the tariff controversy
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

13. the McKinley Tariff of 1890
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

14. the Wilson-Gorman Tariff of 1894
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

15. the Dingley Tariff of 1897
   a. Identification

   b. Significance
16. the currency controversy
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

17. the Bland-Allison Act of 1878
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

18. the Sherman Silver Purchase Act of 1890
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

19. Rutherford B. Hayes
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

20. James A. Garfield
   a. Identification
   b. Significance
21. Chester A. Arthur
   a. Identification
   
   b. Significance

22. the presidential campaign and election of 1884
   a. Identification
   
   b. Significance

23. Grover Cleveland
   a. Identification
   
   b. Significance

24. “rum, Romanism, and rebellion”
   a. Identification
   
   b. Significance

25. the presidential election and campaign of 1888
   a. Identification
   
   b. Significance
26. Benjamin Harrison
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

27. the Dependents’ Pension Act
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

28. the “Billion Dollar Congress”
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

29. Ida B. Wells
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

30. the poll tax
   a. Identification

   b. Significance
31. *United States v. Reese*
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

32. the Mississippi Plan
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

33. the “grandfather clause”
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

34. the *Civil Rights cases*
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

35. *Plessy v. Ferguson* and *Cummins v. County Board of Education*
   a. Identification
   b. Significance
36. Jim Crow laws
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

37. the National Woman Suffrage Association
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

38. the American Woman Suffrage Association
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

39. Susan B. Anthony
   a. Identification
   b. Significance

40. the crop-lien system
   a. Identification
   b. Significance
41. the Grange movement
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

42. the White Hats
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

43. the Farmers’ Alliances
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

44. the subtreasury plan
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

45. the Populist (People’s) party
   a. Identification

   b. Significance
46. the Omaha platform
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

47. James B. Weaver
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

48. the depression of the 1890s
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

49. the Cleveland-Morgan deal
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

50. the Coeur d’Alene strike
   a. Identification

   b. Significance
51. Karl Marx  
   a. Identification  
   b. Significance  

52. Daniel DeLeon  
   a. Identification  
   b. Significance  

53. Eugene V. Debs  
   a. Identification  
   b. Significance  

54. Jacob S. Coxey  
   a. Identification  
   b. Significance  

55. free coinage of silver  
   a. Identification  
   b. Significance
56. the presidential campaign and election of 1896
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

57. William McKinley
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

58. William Jennings Bryan
   a. Identification

   b. Significance

59. the Gold Standard Act
   a. Identification

   b. Significance
### Chart A

The Likelihood of a Viable Coalition of Populist Groups in the Election of 1896

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Groups or Regions That Might Form an Alliance</th>
<th>Factors Making These Groups or Regions Likely Allies</th>
<th>Factors Working Against These Groups or Regions Becoming Allies</th>
<th>How Far These Groups or Regions Came in Producing an Alliance (Election of 1896)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sections of the Country</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Types of Workers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>People Lacking Political Power</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reformer Elements Of the Two Major Political Parties</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Groups</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Chart B

**How Populist Causes Fared, 1877–1900**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What Populists Wanted on Key Issues</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tariffs</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currency</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prices and Rates</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of Political Power</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>What Populists Got on Key Issues</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potential Supporters’ Actions on Key Populist Issues</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tariffs</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Currency</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Prices and Rates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distribution of Political Power</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Potential Supporters**
  - Congress
  - Presidents
  - Supreme Court
  - State Governments
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ways and Means of Governmental Reform, 1877–1900</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Legislation</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spoils System/Bribery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Size, Makeup of Electorate; Voting Rights</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Method of Election</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State Govmt.-Federal Govmt. Balance of Power</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Federal Govmt’s Recognized Responsibilities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Political Parties/Party Structure</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Power of Special Interests</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
IDEAS AND DETAILS

Objective 1
1. Which of the following characterized politics during the Gilded Age?
   a. Party allegiance among the voters was so evenly distributed that no one party gained control for very long.
   b. Americans insisted that the government actively pursue solutions to social problems.
   c. There was little public interest in national elections.
   d. Political contests were very impersonal.

Objective 2
2. In cases arising from the Interstate Commerce Act, the Supreme Court
   a. broadly interpreted the regulatory powers of Congress.
   b. established that government aid to private industry was unconstitutional.
   c. reduced the regulatory powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission.
   d. completely rejected the principle of government regulation of industry.

Objectives 1 and 2
3. Which of the following hastened the move toward civil service reform?
   a. The rejection of Chester Arthur as the Republican party’s vice-presidential nominee in the 1880 election
   b. The assassination of President James Garfield
   c. Public disclosure of testimony by former President Ulysses Grant before the National Civil Service Reform League
   d. The suicide of Charles Guiteau, a disgruntled office seeker.

Objective 3
4. Which of the following words best describes the presidents of the Gilded Age?
   a. Inspiring
   b. Lazy
   c. Honest
   d. Forceful

Objective 1
5. Which of the following was an important factor in Grover Cleveland’s defeat in the presidential election of 1888?
   a. The Republicans successfully engaged in vote fraud in Indiana and New York.
   b. The British minister in Washington publicly supported Benjamin Harrison.
   c. Cleveland’s ethnic jokes offended Irish Catholics.
   d. Cleveland offended consumers by suddenly calling for higher tariffs.
Objectives 1 and 2
6. The action taken by Congress on the issue of veterans’ pensions demonstrates that
   a. Congress was determined to give equal treatment to Union and Confederate veterans.
   b. memories of the Civil War no longer had an impact on national politics.
   c. Congress was opposed to all forms of welfare legislation.
   d. Congress responded to interest-group pressure.

Objective 5
7. Which of the following was the most common argument used by senators voting against the Women’s Suffrage amendment?
   a. If women are given the right to vote, they will demand that the nation disarm.
   b. Giving women the right to vote will interfere with their family responsibilities.
   c. Women are not well enough educated to vote.
   d. Women are too emotional to be given the privilege of voting.

Objective 6
8. As a result of the crop-lien system, many southern farmers
   a. were able to increase the prices they received for their goods.
   b. sank deeper and deeper into debt.
   c. were given the opportunity to become landowners.
   d. began to diversify their crops.

Objectives 6 and 7
9. Farmers hoped that implementation of the subtreasury plan would
   a. lower the cost of farm machinery.
   b. make second mortgages available to farmers facing bankruptcy.
   c. provide higher prices for farm products and low-interest loans to farmers.
   d. lower transportation costs for farm goods.

Objectives 6 and 7
10. The Omaha platform called for
    a. the establishment of national agricultural colleges in all states.
    b. a comprehensive welfare program for destitute farmers.
    c. a two-year moratorium on all debts.
    d. government ownership of railroad lines.

Objective 8
11. The broad-based nature of the 1890s depression was the result of
    a. an interdependent economy.
    b. overspeculation in the stock market.
    c. the Sherman Silver Purchase Act.
    d. the withdrawal of foreign investments.
Objective 9
12. Which of the following became the leading spokesperson for American socialism in the late 1890s?
   a. Jacob Riis  
   b. Eugene V. Debs  
   c. Ignatius Donnelly  
   d. Leonidas Polk

Objective 9
13. To end the depression, Jacob Coxey advocated
   a. government aid to business.  
   b. a return to the gold standard.  
   c. tax cuts to encourage spending.  
   d. the infusion of money into the economy through a federal jobs program.

Objectives 4, 7, and 10
14. Which of the following was a factor that prevented the Farmers’ Alliances from uniting and from gaining political power?
   a. The Socialist Party’s endorsement of the policies of the Farmers’ Alliances caused confusion in the minds of farmers and voters.  
   b. Leaders of the Northern Alliance called for equality under the law for African Americans throughout the United States.  
   c. The disfranchisement of southern African Americans prevented the emergence of a biracial coalition.  
   d. Their endorsement of Jacob Coxey’s demands caused voters to associate the Farmers’ Alliances with extremist causes.

Objectives 7 and 10
15. Which of the following best explains Bryan’s defeat in the 1896 election?
   a. The silver issue prevented Bryan from building an urban-rural coalition.  
   b. Bryan could not match McKinley’s spirited campaign style.  
   c. The Populists refused to endorse Bryan.  
   d. Endorsement of Bryan by the Socialist party caused people to believe that he was a radical.

ESSAY QUESTIONS

Objective 1
1. Discuss the nature of politics, political parties, and political campaigns during the Gilded Age.

Objective 2
2. Discuss the problems that led to passage of the Interstate Commerce Act, and assess the act’s effectiveness.
Objective 2
3. Explain the tariff issue, and trace tariff legislation from passage of the McKinley Tariff in 1890 through passage of the Dingley Tariff of 1897. What were the consequences of the tariff policies of the United States during this period?

Objective 4
4. Explain the process that led to the disfranchisement of southern blacks and to the segregation of southern society by law. How did the Supreme Court respond to this process?

Objectives 2, 6, and 7
5. Explain the emergence of the farm protest movement, and examine its development through the 1896 election.

Objective 8
6. Discuss the causes and consequences of the depression of the 1890s.

Objectives 2 and 10
7. Examine the personalities and issues of the 1896 presidential campaign, and explain the election’s outcome.
ANSWERS

Multiple-Choice Questions

1.  a. Correct. Since voters were evenly divided between the two political parties, neither party was the “majority party” during the period from 1877–1897. As a result, there were frequent power shifts that prevented the passage of effective, lasting legislation. See page 543.

b. No. Americans generally accepted a passive federal government that did not involve itself in economic and social matters. See page 543.

c. No. This was an age in which party identification was important; voters were interested in politics, believed their votes were important, and voted in large numbers. See page 543.

d. No. Politics was a popular form of mass entertainment and people formed strong loyalties to politicians and political parties. Consequently, political contests were often deeply personal. See page 543.

2.  c. Correct. In the Wabash case the Supreme Court ruled that only Congress could limit railroad rates involving interstate commerce. However, in cases arising under the Interstate Commerce Act, the Court narrowly interpreted those powers. In so doing, the Court reduced the regulatory powers of the Interstate Commerce Commission. See page 546.

a. No. Although the Supreme Court placed responsibility for the regulation of interstate commerce in the hands of Congress through the Wabash case, the Court did not broadly interpret those powers in cases arising under the Interstate Commerce Act. See page 546.

b. No. The Interstate Commerce Act did not extend government aid to private industry; therefore, the Court did not rule on this issue in cases arising under the Interstate Commerce Act. See page 546.

d. No. In the Wabash case the Court accepted the principle of government regulation of industry by holding that only Congress could limit railroad rates involving interstate commerce. This decision was not overturned by the Court in cases arising under the Interstate Commerce Act. See page 546.

3.  b. Correct. After the election of James Garfield to the presidency in 1880, Charles Guiteau, who had actively campaigned for Garfield, requested a patronage position in the diplomatic corps. After having been rebuffed several times, Guiteau shot President Garfield twice in the back as the President was about to board a train in Washington, D. C. This act along with revelations about the spoils system during Guiteau's trial are factors that led Congress to pass the Pendleton Civil Service Act in 1883. See page 548.

a. No. Chester Arthur was chosen as the Republican party's vice-presidential nominee in the 1880 presidential election. See page 548.

c. No. Former President Grant never testified before the National Civil Service Reform League. See page 548.

d. No. Charles Guiteau did not commit suicide. After having been found guilty of the assassination of President James Garfield, Guiteau was executed on June 30, 1882. See page 548.
4. c. Correct. The presidents during the Gilded Age did not evoke much of an emotional response from the electorate, but they were honest, honorable, and proper. See page 548.
   a. No. The presidents during the Gilded Age were not “inspiring” figures to most of the electorate. See page 548.
   b. No. The presidents during the Gilded Age were hardworking men and may not accurately be described as lazy. See page 548.
   d. No. Believing that it was their job to execute the laws passed by Congress, the presidents during the Gilded Age may not be described as forceful or active. See page 548.

5. a. Correct. Partly as a result of bribery and vote fraud, the Republicans carried Indiana by 2,300 votes and New York by 14,000 votes. See page 549.
   b. No. The British minister, to the delight of the Republicans, said that Democrat Grover Cleveland’s election would be good for England. This offended Irish Democrats and weakened Cleveland’s campaign. See page 549.
   c. No. Grover Cleveland is not known to have told ethnic jokes offensive to Irish Catholics. See page 549.
   d. No. Grover Cleveland was against high tariffs, and, even though he was convinced to temper his attacks against tariffs for political reasons, he never called for higher tariffs. See page 549.

6. d. Correct. Although angered by tactics of lobbyists for the Grand Army of the Republic, congressmen still voted in favor of providing generous pensions for Union veterans and their widows. They did so, in large measure, because of pressure from this politically powerful interest group. See pages 549–550.
   b. No. The events leading to congressional action on pensions for Civil War veterans and their widows make it obvious that the memories of the war were still alive and affected the decisions of Congress. See pages 549–550.
   c. No. By providing generous pensions to Union veterans and their widows, Congress made one of the largest welfare commitments it has ever made. See pages 549–550.

7. b. Correct. The most common argument in the Senate against the extension of the right to vote to women was the contention that it would interfere with their family responsibilities and ruin female virtue. See page 553.
   a. No. The contention that women will demand national disarmament was not the most common argument against giving women the right to vote. See page 553.
   c. No. The contention that women were not well enough educated to vote was not the most common argument used by senators opposed to the extension of the vote to women. See page 553.
   d. No. The contention that women were too emotional was not the most common argument used by senators opposed to the extension of the vote to women. See page 553.
8. b. Correct. The operation of the crop-lien system forced many farmers into perpetual debt and into a state of helpless peonage. See page 554.
   a. No. The crop-lien system did not make it possible for southern farmers to increase the prices of their agricultural products. See page 554.
   c. No. The crop-lien system was at the heart of sharecropping and tenant farming and did not create the opportunity for more southern farmers to become landowners. See page 554.
   d. No. The growing of traditional cash crops, especially cotton, was emphasized rather than agricultural diversification. See page 554.

9. c. Correct. The subtreasury system would give farmers a place to store their crops while waiting for higher prices, and it would allow them to borrow subtreasury notes amounting to 80 percent of the value of their crops. Through this system, farmers hoped to solve their cash and credit problems. See page 556.
   a. No. Although farmers complained about the cost of farm machinery, they did not see the subtreasury system as a way to lower those costs. See page 556.
   b. No. The subtreasury system was not proposed as an agency that would make second mortgages available to farmers facing bankruptcy. See page 556.
   d. No. The subtreasury system was not a means by which transportation costs could be lowered. See page 556.

10. d. Correct. Farmers believed that railroads had been built on public land with public funds, and it angered them that railroads were operated for the private enrichment of a few individuals. Therefore, the Omaha platform called for government ownership of the railroad lines. See page 557.
   a. No. Although the Omaha platform called for increased government regulation of trusts, it did not call for the nationalization of the oil and steel industries. See page 557.
   b. No. Although Populists did call for a more active federal government in the Omaha platform, they did not advocate a welfare program for destitute farmers. They believed that an expansive money supply, brought about by the free coinage of silver, would solve farmers’ monetary problems. See page 557.
   c. No. The Populists clearly recognized the debt problems of farmers but did not call for a moratorium on debts in the Omaha platform. They believed that a graduated income tax, the creation of a postal savings bank, and the free coinage of silver would solve farmers’ monetary problems. See page 557.

11. a. Correct. The national economy had reached the point where business failures in one area had a ripple effect throughout the economic system, causing failures in other areas. See pages 558–559.
   b. No. In some measure, the depression of the 1890s was due to overspeculation in certain industries, but it was not due to overspeculation in the stock market. See pages 558–559.
   c. No. Although the Sherman Silver Purchase Act had a psychological impact that led to the dwindling of the nation’s gold reserves, it was not the reason for the broad-based nature of the depression. In addition, repeal of the act did not halt the run on the Treasury. See pages 558–559.
   d. No. The impact of the depression of the 1890s on other countries and the subsequent withdrawal of foreign investments from the United States are indications of the broad-based nature of the depression. However, this withdrawal did not cause the depression to be broad-based. See pages 558–559.
12. b. Correct. Eugene Debs, president of the American Railway Union, was jailed in 1894 for defying a federal court injunction against the Pullman strike. While in jail, Debs became a socialist and, after his release, became the leading spokesperson for American socialism. See page 560.

a. No. Jacob Riis (page 523) was a New York journalist and the author of How the Other Half Lives, published in 1890. The book exposed the horrors of life in the slums of New York. Although Riis was an active reformer, he was not a socialist. See page 560.

c. No. Ignatius Donnelly (page 558) was a leading Minnesota Populist during the 1890s and was not the leading spokesperson for American socialism. See page 560.

d. No. Leonidas Polk (page 558) was president of the Southern Alliance in 1891 and a leading North Carolina Populist. See page 560.

13. d. Correct. Jacob Coxey advocated that the government purposefully cause inflation by pumping $500 million of paper money into the economy through a federal jobs program. See page 560.

a. No. Although Jacob Coxey was a wealthy businessman from Ohio, his plan for dealing with the depression did not include government aid to business. See page 560.

b. No. The United States was already on the gold standard in 1894 when Coxey’s “commonweal army” marched on the nation’s capital. Coxey believed that the government’s insistence on backing currency with gold was prolonging the depression. See page 560.

c. No. The nation did not have a federal income tax in 1894, and Jacob Coxey did not advocate tax cuts as a way to end the depression. See page 560.

14. c. Correct. Out of fear that a biracial Populist coalition would jeopardize their power in the South, southern white Democrats disfranchised southern African Americans. The removal of African Americans from southern politics thus prevented the emergence of a coalition of southern whites and blacks. Furthermore, due to their racist attitudes, poor white farmers rejected attempts to end white-only membership in the Southern Alliance. See pages 550–551 and page 557.

a. No. The Socialist Party’s ideology was attractive primarily to disaffected workers, not farmers. See pages 550–551 and page 557.

b. No. Although some southern leaders attempted to forge an alliance between poor southern whites and blacks, leaders of the Northern Alliance did not call for equality under the law for African Americans. See pages 550–551 and page 557.

d. No. Although some voters may have labeled members of the Farmers' Alliances as extremists, it was not because the Farmers' Alliances endorsed Coxey’s demand for a public-works relief program. See pages 550–551 and page 557.

15. a. Correct. Free silver was attractive to many farmers of the West and South, but its promise of inflation was not attractive to city dwellers and factory workers. As a result, Bryan was never able to build an urban-rural coalition. See pages 563–564.

b. No. McKinley conducted a “front-porch” campaign that can hardly be called “spirited.” See pages 563–564.

c. No. When the Democrats nominated Bryan and endorsed many Populist ideas, the Populists decided to nominate Bryan for the presidency and Tom Watson of Georgia for the vice-presidency. See pages 563–564.

d. No. Bryan was not endorsed by the Socialist party. See pages 563–564.