Railroads Connect the Nation

USH Module 3

Directions: Read the information in the boxes carefully. Then use it to answer the questions that follow. You will then understand how the railroads gained importance.

Pacific Railroad Acts—1862 and 1864

- Acts give the Union Pacific and the Central Pacific railroad companies 20 million acres of federal land and federal loans to build a transcontinental railroad.
- The Union Pacific builds westward, starting from Omaha.
- The Central Pacific builds eastward, starting from Sacramento.

The Work Starts

- Former Union General Jack Casement heads the Union Pacific crew. The railroad hires mostly Irish immigrants.
- Charlie Crocker heads the Central Pacific crew. The Central Pacific hires Chinese immigrants.

1867: The Grange Is Founded

- Also called Patrons of Husbandry, the Grange is founded by Oliver Kelley.
- The Grange's purpose was to give farm families opportunities to learn more about farming.
- The Grange fought railroads for charging high prices to ship crops.
- The Grange elected legislators who set up railroad commissions in several states.

1869: Transcontinental Railroad Completed

- Rail lines running from east to west meet at Promontory Point, Utah.
- The adventure of cross-country travel begins.

Crédit Mobilier Scandal

- Crédit Mobilier was the construction company that built the Union Pacific Railroad. Both companies were run by the same people. The construction company gave itself the contract for building the railroad and overpaid itself for work done.
- The company gave stock to congressmen for land and money and to keep them from investigating.
- 1872: The New York Sun exposes the bribery, but no one is convicted.

Uniform Time Plan Adopted—1883

- Professor C. F. Dowd divides the earth's surface into twentyfour time zones, four of which cover the continental United States: Eastern, Central, Mountain, and Pacific.
- When the railroads adopt the plan, so does the rest of the country, thus putting everyone on the same schedule.

1887: Interstate Commerce Act

- The act declared that railroad rates must be reasonable. Congress also established the Interstate Commerce Commission to oversee railroad rates.
- The commission had no power to set rates and was not very effective until after 1901.

What 3. convinced the United States to adopt the uniform time plan? 4. did the railroad acts provide the railroad companies? 5. was the Crédit Mobilier? 6. legislation established a commission to oversee railroad rates? When 7. was the transcontinental railroad completed? 8. was the Interstate Commerce Act passed?

Industries Expand

USH Module 3

Directions: Read the information presented below and use it to complete the sentences at the bottom of the page. You will then understand how new inventions encouraged the expansion of American industry.

Oil Industry

- 1858: Edwin Drake drills for oil in Titusville, Pennsylvania.
- 1859: Oil—called "Drake's folly"—is struck, marking the beginning of the petroleum industry.
 Two products made from oil are kerosene for lamps and, in the 1890's, gasoline for the internalcombustion engine used in cars.

Coal Industry

- Coal is used in making steel.
- Most United States coal comes from a strip extending west of the Appalachians from Pennsylvania to Alabama.
 Coal production jumped from 33 million tons in 1870 to 250 million tons in 1900.

Electricity

- Electric power replaces steam power. Factories can now be built near raw materials, the labor supply, and markets.
- Electric motors run public trolley systems, replacing horse-drawn cars.
- Electricity runs the telegraph, invented by Samuel F. B. Morse. Newspapers can now report events within twenty-four hours. The influence of the press increases.
- 1879: The light bulb is invented by Thomas Edison.
- The telephone is invented by Alexander Graham Bell in the 1870's. By 1900 there are 1.5 million telephones in service. Telephones tie parts of the nation together and put more women to work as switchboard operators.

Industries expand as a result of technology—the application of scientific discoveries to industry. Resources increase production.

Typewriter.

 1867: Christopher Sholes invents the typewriter. By 1900 women make up 75 percent of the nation's office workers. Women begin to press for suffrage.

Iron Ore

- · Iron ore is needed for making steel.
- 1855: The Soo Canal is built between Lake Superior and Lake Huron. Iron ore is shipped to Pennsylvania steel mills by water.
- 1887: Huge iron-ore deposits are discovered in the Mesabi Range in Minnesota. The range has yielded more iron ore than any other deposit.

Steel Production

- William Kelly and Henry Bessemer develop a new way to make steel production more efficient and less costly.
 The open-hearth method makes it possible to control the quality of steel.
- Most steel mills are in Pennsylvania. Two important steel products are barbed wire and cans.

1	made it poss	sible to build factories away from waterfalls.	. 1
2. The telegraph increased	the influence of the	•	•
3	invented the	light bulb.	•
4. One invention that drew	more women to office jobs	was the	·······••
5. Technology is the applic	ation of science to		
6. Thewomen jobs.	improv	red communication between parts of the na	ation and gave many
7. William Kelly and Henry	Bessemer developed a nev	w way to make	·
8. Two important products	made from steel were	and	*
9. Two uses of oil were _ for internal-combustion		for lamps and	

Copyright @ McDougal, Littell & Company