

INDUSTRIAL GROWTH

After the Civil War and Reconstruction, the United States began to see a rise in industry and the growth of businesses. Cities were getting larger and more people were working, but there was still a great gap between the rich and the poor in the United States.

The railroad industry also saw some major developments during this time. The **Transcontinental Railroad**, the first railroad to span the United States from Atlantic to Pacific, opened up the opportunity for social and economical growth towards the West.

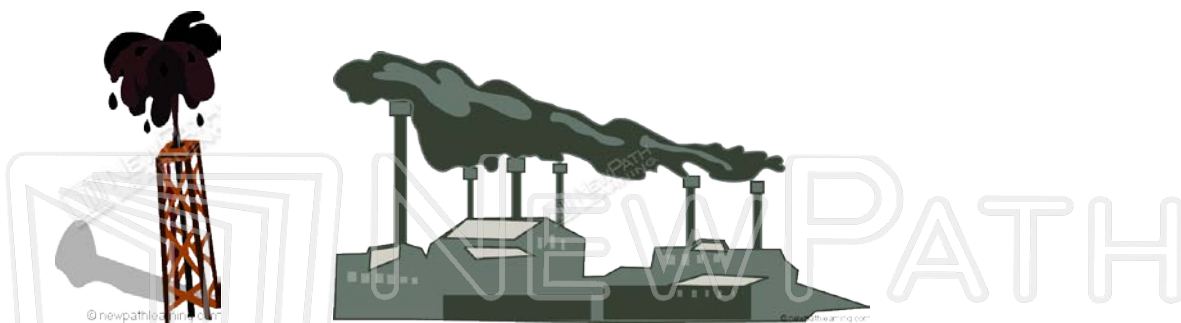


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PREVIEW

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While factory work became more prevalent, the working conditions grew worse. **Labor unions** were formed in order to fight against these poor conditions but it was not until devastating events took place that there was any real change. Leaders of the labor unions fought for many years to ensure the safety of factory workers.