

Chapter 18 Guided Reading Questions

Section 1

1. How can inflation and deflation sometimes be solved with the supply of currency in circulation?
2. Why did American farmers see “free silver” as a solution to their problems?
3. What problems could come up with the use of the spoils system?
4. How did the spoils system contribute to Garfield’s assassination?
5. What major change was made to employment by the federal government while Chester A. Arthur was President?

Section 2

1. Passage of the Interstate Commerce Act shows that the US was starting to move away from what type of economy, and how?
2. Why was it mostly impossible for state governments to control the country’s largest trusts?
3. What factors made enforcement of antitrust legislation very difficult?

Section 3

1. What financial problems faced American farmers after the Civil War?
2. What abuses were targeted by passage of the Granger Laws?
3. *Munn v. Illinois* set what precedent?
4. What reforms were demanded by the newly formed Populist Party of the 1890's?
5. Why was it necessary to pass the 16th Amendment in order to levy an income tax?
6. What was reassuring to people about the use of the gold standard?

Section 4

1. What became the key issue in the election of 1896?
2. Even though he did not win the Presidency, why do you think William Jennings Bryan's "Cross of Gold" speech became so famous?

Chapter 18 Vocabulary

Section 1

James Garfield

deflation

inflation

“free silver”

spoils system

Chester A. Arthur

Pendleton Act

Section 2

Grover Cleveland

Interstate Commerce Act (1887)

“Big Business”

Sherman Antitrust Act

Section 3

foreclosure

Granges

“cheap money”

Munn v. Illinois

Populists

3rd party candidates

16th Amendment

gold standard

Section 4

William Jennings Bryan

“Cross of Gold” speech