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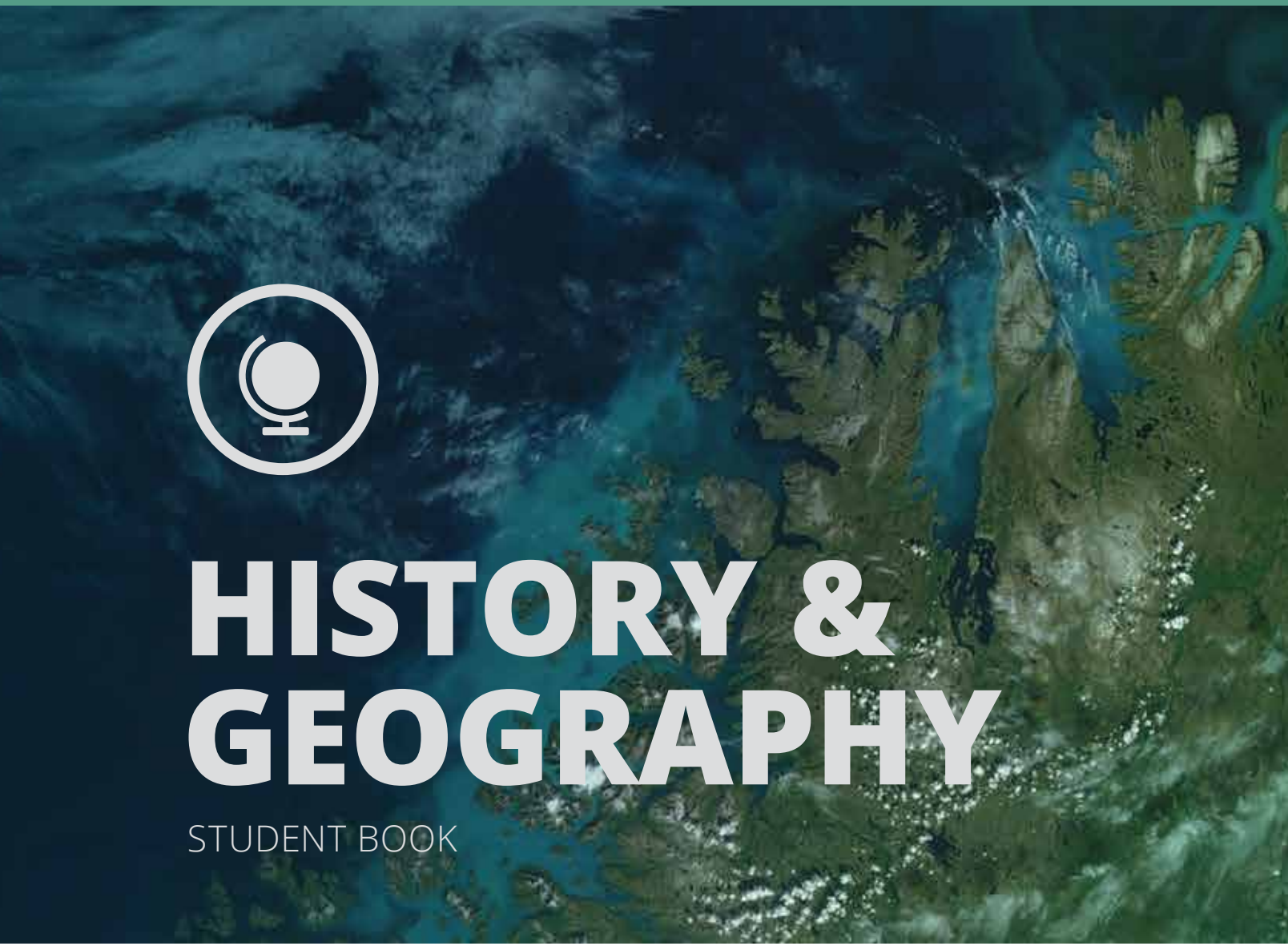

HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY

STUDENT BOOK

11th Grade | Unit 6

Alpha Omega
PUBLICATIONS

HISTORY & GEOGRAPHY 1106

UNITED STATES INVOLVEMENT AT HOME AND ABROAD

LIFEPAC Test is located in the center of the booklet. Please remove before starting the unit.

Author:
Alpha Omega Staff

Editor:
Alan Christopherson, M.S.

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804 N. 2nd Ave. E.
Rock Rapids, IA 51246-1759

United States Involvement at Home and Abroad

Introduction

The United States, largely an agricultural nation, experienced great changes as the Industrial Revolution reached her shores. The constant development of labor-saving devices for both the farm and the factory revolutionized the way of life in the United States, giving place to new national trends such as the moves from country to city, from home to factory, and from small business to booming corporation. Interest in the United States centered around the nation itself in those formative years as it strove to become economically sound and prosperous. However, as it developed into a powerful industrial giant, the United States was forced to turn its eyes outward, leaving its policy of noninvolvement in world affairs and becoming increasingly active in international concerns.

You will study these changing years for the United States that transformed our nation into a mighty world power. You will study the development of the United States as an industrial nation from small New England shipyards to massive corporations, and you will note the frustrations and victories of industrial growth. You will examine the movement of the United States out of **isolationism** into world involvement as the country expanded its activity in the Western Hemisphere. Finally, you will observe the problems in Europe and the options of the United States before the First World War.

The years of economic and international expansion were filled with testing and triumphs and ended with our nation's exciting leap into world leadership. Hopefully, you will be caught up in the excitement of the growth and expansion in the United States and abroad, factors that helped make the United States the prosperous nation we enjoy today.

Objectives

Read these objectives. The objectives tell you what you will be able to do when you have successfully completed this LIFEPAC®. When you have finished this LIFEPAC, you should be able to:

1. Describe the resources the United States possessed for industrial growth.
2. List the inventions and improvements that provided early industrial growth in the United States.
3. Describe the factors involved in the development of the factory system in the United States.
4. List the new developments in industrial power, transportation, and communication during the late 1800s and early 1900s.
5. Describe the development and effects of corporations on the United States.
6. Explain living and working conditions of a factory worker in an industrial center.
7. Describe the development and effects of the labor movement in the United States on employers and employees.
8. Explain the provisions and effects of the Monroe Doctrine.
9. List the causes and battles of the Spanish-American War.
10. Describe the effects and changes that the American-Cuban victory in the Spanish-American War brought to both victors.
11. Describe the United States' foreign policies in the Caribbean and the Far East.

12. Describe Theodore Roosevelt's influence in converting the status of the United States from isolation to world leadership.

13. Describe the part nationalism played in the growing friction between nations in the late 1800s and early 1900s.

14. Explain the growth of militarism in the leading nations of the world.

15. Compare and contrast the Triple Alliance and Triple Entente.

Survey the LIFEPAC. Ask yourself some questions about this study and write your questions here.

1. U.S. INDUSTRY

Although United States industry had its roots in early New England shipyards and trading ventures, it had not yet experienced the great surge in production and distribution that British industry had witnessed. New inventions and production methods were revolutionizing British industry, multiplying production, reducing costs, and providing greater availability of goods. As Great Britain reaped the benefits of its Industrial Revolution, it tried to keep British inventions and methods to itself. In time, British inventions reached other countries and eventually they were taken across the Atlantic Ocean to a young nation that had not begun to realize its own industrial potential.

Section Objectives

Review these objectives. When you have completed this section, you should be able to:

1. Describe the resources the United States possessed for industrial growth.
2. List the inventions and improvements that provided early industrial growth in the United States.
   - 2.1 In the agricultural industry.
   - 2.2 In the transportation field.
   - 2.3 In the communication field.
   - 2.4 In national affairs.
3. Describe the factors involved in the development of the factory system in the United States.
4. List the new developments in industrial power, transportation, and communication during the late 1800s and early 1900s.

Vocabulary

Study these words to enhance your learning success in this section.

internal combustion . . . . . A heat engine in which the fuel burns inside the engine itself.

isolationsim . . . . . A policy of noninvolvement in world affairs.

monopoly . . . . . The exclusive control of a commodity or production by a business.

standardized parts. . . . . Parts are uniform so they can be substituted interchangeably.

Note: *All vocabulary words in this LIFEPAC appear in* **boldface** *print the first time they are used. If you are not sure of the meaning when you are reading, study the definitions given.*

U.S. INDUSTRY: BIRTH AND GROWTH

If any nation was ever prepared for a revolution of industry, it was the United States. Few nations have possessed an abundance and availability of resources equal to that of the United States. When the Industrial Revolution crossed the Atlantic, the setting and timing favored the United States.

Natural American setting. For industry to flourish, certain requirements are demanded. Without these basic building blocks, industry's development is stifled. In the young United States, industry's needs were met with abundant resources and labor.

Industry constantly demands a rich supply of raw materials from which to draw. The arrival of the Industrial Revolution in the United States necessitated intelligent use of our nation's natural resources. The seemingly limitless supply of natural energy-producing materials gave the industrial United States a gigantic surge that even Britain could not equal.

Power to run factories and machines was readily available in the United States. Not only did rich coal fields lie beneath the fertile soil of the Atlantic coastal states, but numerous rivers and streams also provided powerful energy sources. In addition, the United States possessed other raw materials vital for industry such as great iron and oil deposits. These abundant stores of raw materials went virtually unused until the coming of the Industrial Revolution.

The variety of land and climate in the United States made possible the growth of numerous types of crops. The southern United States in particular favored successful large-scale agriculture. Agriculture became the South's leading industry. Vast Southern plantations sprang up early in our nation's history, bringing large profits and welcome trade.

To take advantage of these natural resources, however, workers were needed for management and production. Unlike Britain and Europe, the United States had a continuous supply of potential factory workers. While some farmers and artisans entered industry, many chose to remain independent. However, the great inflow of immigrants into the United States consisted of untrained laborers. Many of these immigrants were thankful to have any job at all.

The major industrial ingredient essential for making all the natural resources, factory workers and managers fit together to form a profitable industry is capital. All the industrial potential in the world is useless unless the financial backing is secured for industry to originate and develop. The nation's businessmen must be willing to combine their assets in the new, unproved business ventures at a definite risk. Fortunately, the United States had an ample supply of prosperous men who were willing to take the risk. New England businessmen, made wealthy from shipbuilding and trading ventures, were particularly excited about the potential for industry in the United States. Impressed by the accomplishments of the Industrial Revolution in Europe, and motivated by the lure of profits, these businessmen invested their capital hopefully.

A further motivation behind eagerness for industrial growth in the United States was a strong feeling of resentment toward Britain, especially on the part of New Englanders. Stemming from feelings held over from the Revolutionary War, British industry was slow to share its machine technology with the former colonies. Britain still felt itself superior to the young nation it once ruled. The desire to remove this stigma as a second-rate nation made the United States even more determined to succeed in the age of industry.

Thus, the setting was ripe for industrial growth and development. With an abundant supply of natural resources, a working force, and capital; there was a firm foundation for industry in the United States to grow and flourish—and flourish it did, beyond the wildest expectations.

Early industrial growth. In addition to taking advantage of the industrial inventions and methods which had revolutionized Britain and Europe, people in the United States were busy tapping their own creative resources, constantly developing new and better ways to get the job done.

The agricultural portion of the United States was the first sector to reap the profits of the machine age. After observing the hard, slow task of picking cotton, a colonial schoolteacher and gunmaker, Eli Whitney, began experimenting in 1793 with a machine that would separate cotton seeds from the lint. This invention became known as the cotton gin and revolutionized the cotton industry in the South. Where once a slave had needed one whole day to separate a pound of cotton by hand, the cotton gin

enabled one man to separate fifty pounds in the same amount of time!

What a drastic change this invention brought to cotton growers! Whitney's cotton gin set the stage for a flow of inventions in the agricultural industry. In 1819, Jethro Wood developed the iron plow which rapidly replaced the wooden plow. In 1869 James Oliver invented the chilled steel plow, a much lighter tool to handle and a more efficient cutter. An additional boost to the agricultural industry came in 1834 with the invention of the reaping machine by Cyrus McCormick. Eliminating the slow process of cutting grain by hand, the reaper improved the quality of work and saved valuable time farmers could use elsewhere. Shortly after the introduction of the reaper came the development of the threshing machine in 1837. Separating the grain from the chaff, the threshing machine became a valuable timesaving device for the farmer. With the development and use of such labor-saving machines, the agricultural industry experienced a great increase in production which, in turn, lowered the selling price of farm products.

The textile industry also profited from the new inventions with their subsequent increase in availability and decrease in the cost of raw materials. The textile industry could then pass the profits on to the consumer by setting the prices of their goods much lower. Elias Howe invented the sewing machine in 1846, eliminating the slow process of making clothing by hand, thus decreasing clothing prices even further.

As new inventions enabled United States industries to grow and expand, better transportation to deliver manufactured goods was strongly demanded. Roads in the United States were in pitiful shape. The roads were dusty in dry weather and muddy during rainy weather with deep ruts making travel quite dangerous. At the beginning of the 1800s little had been done to correct these unsafe thoroughfares, much to industry's dismay. However, in 1811 construction began on a much-needed national road, the first step toward improving the situation.

Starting in Cumberland, Maryland, the new road was initially intended to run to Wheeling, West Virginia. Known as the Cumberland Road, it was thirty to eighty feet wide and was covered with crushed rock. In addition to its use for the transport of manufactured goods, the Cumberland Road was also traveled by farmers, cattlemen, and traders heading for their respective markets. Safer, quicker, and more enjoyable for travelers, the new highway was also

| The Cumberland Road

frequented by stagecoaches, mail deliveries, and settlers heading west. States such as Pennsylvania and New York soon followed the pattern set by the Cumberland Road. These states built such roads with private funds and collected tolls from travelers to help pay construction costs.

Because land travel was so slow and expensive, many businessmen, especially from the Midwest, shipped their products east by the cheaper water routes. To satisfy industry's constant demands for faster distribution of goods and resources, canals were constructed to increase the efficiency of water travel. In 1825 construction was completed on the Erie Canal, connecting Lake Erie with the Hudson River in New York. Once on the Hudson River, ships could easily travel through New York harbor to the Atlantic. By taking advantage of this canal route, farmers in the Appalachian region and the Ohio Valley were able to transport their goods in a more rapid, less expensive way. New York's manufacturing and shipping industries owe a large part of their early success to the building of the Erie Canal.

| The Welland and Erie Canals

Following the construction of the Erie Canal, other canals were built between Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, Lake Erie and the Ohio River, Lake Michigan and the Illinois River, and Lake Champlain and the Hudson River. This construction of waterways not only boosted the distribution of goods and the growth of industry, but it also aided the overall economy, travel, and recreation of the United States.

Commencing a new age of water traffic, Robert Fulton's development of the steamboat in 1807 completely revolutionized water travel. The *Clermont* successfully completed a three-hundred mile round trip on the Hudson River from New York City to Albany. The successful venture of the *Clermont* immediately gave birth to an immense interest in the potential of such a vessel. Within just a few years, steamboats were regularly traveling up and down the great Mississippi River and other waterways.

Cities such as St. Louis, Cincinnati, Louisville, and New Orleans prospered greatly from the increased trade the steamboat made possible. National waterways did not hold a **monopoly** on the steamboat's use. The steamboat, powered by the new steam engines, was soon sailing the oceans alongside the cargo ships. Eliminating the costly delays in shipping goods, the steamboat transported tons of cargo worldwide, increasing the efficient distribution of goods.

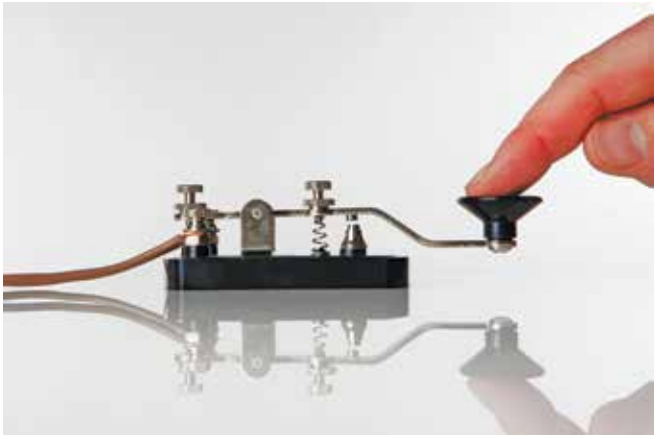
Although the steamboat answered industry's demands for more rapid distribution of goods, the lack of waterways in key areas of the United States led to demands for improved land transportation. Thus, the steam engine was adapted to land travel in the form of the steam locomotives. Following the development of Peter Cooper's steam-driven locomotive, the *Tom Thumb*, about 1830, steam locomotives met with immediate success. The steamboat could not compete in speed and efficiency with this new mode of land travel. At first, passengers had to risk the discomforts of track switching, train fires, and train derailments. In time, however, improvements increased the train's desirability as a means of travel.

The inconveniences of rail travel were of no concern to industrialists who were delighted with the constant arrival of their products in record time. The demand for the new locomotive was great. Although only thirty miles of track lay across the United States in 1830, by 1860 over thirty thousand miles of track spread across our nation!

| The steam engine rotated the big paddle wheel on the back, propelling the boat.

Not only did improvements in transportation further the growth of business and industry, but developments in communication were also essential in carrying out large-scale business transactions. Although a postal system was in effect, mail delivery was too slow and inefficient to meet the demands of larger businesses. In 1844 Samuel F. B. Morse demonstrated the sending of messages by electricity over telegraph wires. His first message, sent over electric telegraph wires between Baltimore and Washington, amazingly declared, "What hath God wrought!" Telegraph wires soon stretched across the nation, greatly improving the transmission of information from one part of the country to another. By 1861 fifty thousand miles of telegraph lines reached from the east coast to California.

New inventions and methods greatly boosted early industrial growth in America, providing greater production and better distribution of goods to an



| Morse code is each letter and number tapped out in a series of long and short taps.

increasingly expanding market. However, other factors also had a considerable effect on the growth of industry in the United States. International affairs struck an unlikely blow for United States industry in 1807 when President Thomas Jefferson convinced Congress to cancel all American trade with foreign countries during a war between Britain and France.

With this sudden boycott of British trade, goods once purchased from Britain now had to be produced at home. Thus, the Embargo Act of 1807 greatly increased the growth of factories in our nation. Forcing the United States to become more self-reliant, the Embargo Act brought increased competition among businessmen.

Progress does not always come about by desirable means—such is the case in war. As United States troops mobilized to fight, the demands on industry were continual. The production of weapons, ammunition, warships, and similar military equipment kept factories busy and profits soaring in preparation for war. In addition, as soldiers vacated their positions to fight, their civilian jobs were left open. Not only did unemployment decrease, but also many workers were asked to work overtime to meet war's surging production demands. The early conflicts, the War of 1812, the Civil War and the Spanish-American War, gave the young United States' industry a necessary boost into maturity. In a few short years the United States experienced amazing industrial growth.

Choose the best answer(s).

1.1 Potential sources of power for United States industry lay in its:

_____ a. coal fields

_____ b. oil deposits

_____ c. iron-ore veins

_____ d. rivers and streams

1.2 Natural resources in the United States included:

_____ a. variety of land and climates

_____ b. iron and oil deposits

_____ c. wealthy businessmen

_____ d. forests

_____ e. rivers and streams

1.3 Requirements for industrial growth include:

_____ a. raw materials

_____ b. government regulations

_____ c. workers

_____ d. capital

_____ e. large tax base

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