

# The New South

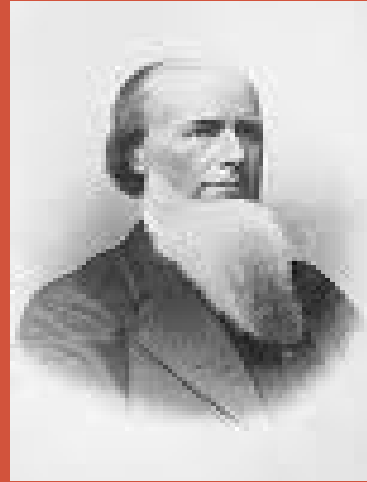
**Post Reconstruction Georgia  
Redemption, Populism, and a  
New Century**

# AKS

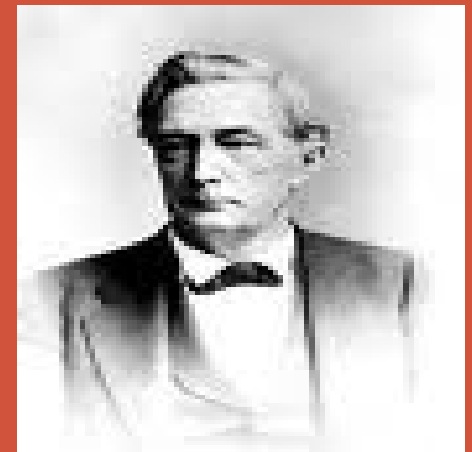
- evaluate key political, social, and economic changes which occurred in Georgia between 1877 and 1918 (GPS) (8SS\_G2007-38)
- 38a - evaluate the impact of each on Georgia between 1877 and 1918 including Bourbon Triumvirate, Henry Grady, International Cotton Exposition, Tom Watson and the Populists, Rebecca Latimer Felton, 1906 Atlanta Riot, Leo Frank Case, and the county unit system
- 38b - analyze the denial of rights of African Americans through the Jim Crow laws including Plessy v. Ferguson, disenfranchisement and racial violence
- 38c - differentiate the roles of Booker T. Washington, W.E.B. DuBois, John and Lugenia Burns Hope, and Alonzo Herndon

# Georgia's Redemption Years

- Redemption Period – follows Reconstruction; when martial law ended & white Democratic Party regained control of GA
- Political Leaders known as Bourbon Triumvirate
  - Joseph E. Brown
  - Alfred H. Colquitt
  - John B. GordonAll 3 held major political offices.



•Brown: governor (during Civil War too) and then US Senator



Colquitt- Major General in CSA Army; then gov



Gordon-: Lt. General in CSA Army; US Senator and then gov.

# The Bourbon Triumvirate

- Wanted to expand GA's industries to create stronger economy & ties to the North, hoping to eventually rival the North in industry
- Supported **white supremacy** (belief that whites are superior) & **segregation**
- Influence on GA:
  - Reduced state debt and taxes
  - Introduced more industry to GA (especially textiles)
  - Constitution of 1877 enacted (lasted until 1945)
  - Instituted white supremacist policies (Jim Crow)

# Challenges to Bourbon Power

- Independent Democrats challenged Bourbons
  - Led by William & Rebecca Latimer Felton
- Focused on improving conditions for the poor & lower middle class
  - Worked to end convict lease system & supported prison reform
  - Supported women's suffrage and Temperance
  - Improvements in public education/child labor issues
- Helped begin the Populist movement in GA
- Rebecca became the 1<sup>st</sup> female US senator



# Read Only!

- Rebecca Felton was a national Temperance and Suffrage leader. The Feltons used the newspaper they owned--the Cartersville Courant—to publicize their ideas and oppose/defeat the Bourbons. She later had her own very popular column in the Atl Journal

# Henry Grady

- Editor of the *Atlanta Constitution*; voice of the New South
- Coined the term “**New South**”  
describing the Post Reconstruction South
  - more industrialized
  - more like the North with a diversified economy
- **Advocated northern investment in southern industry, hoping South would eventually rival the North**
- **Wanted to improve race relations**
- **Died suddenly from illness at 39**



# Read Only!

- Henry Grady helped bring investment capital to GA to start industry—added jobs and helped the state continue to recover from the Civil War.
- Make sure to connect Grady to the Cotton States Expo—he was one of the major planners & used the Atlanta Constitution to promote it.



# Improvements in Education

State funded, free elementary public education est. by Constitution of 1877

- 3 month school yr allowed children to go to school and work
- Formal teacher training begun in Normal Schools
- Schools segregated by law



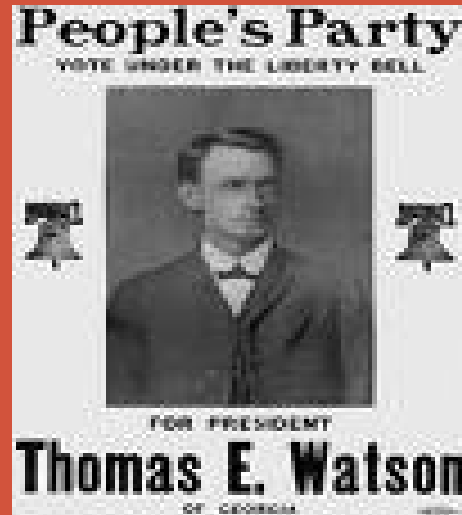
# Farmers Seek a Political Voice

- US farm income drops each decade after Civ. War; worst in the south
- To get more favorable laws passed US farmers create social/political orgs
  - The Grange
  - Farmer's Alliance
- These farmers groups join forces w/ labor unions & create a 3<sup>rd</sup> political party
  - the Populist Party
  - Seen as the party of the common working man
  - in the South—and GA—the farmers (black and white) were the main supporters of the Populists and people like Tom Watson.



# The Populist Party in GA

- Led by Tom Watson
  - Introduced Rural Free Delivery (RFD) bill as a US Representative – created system of free mail delivery for rural areas
- **Populists Successes**
  - 17<sup>th</sup> amendment – direct election of senators
  - 8 hour work day
  - Graduated income tax
  - Australian Ballot – gov't created voting ballot, kept in sealed boxes to maintain secrecy.



# The Progressive Movement

- National movement based on belief people could make improvements in society; Populists are part of this movement
- Grew out of shift in US population from rural to urban lifestyles due to industrialization
- Focused on:
  - Improving living/working conditions
  - Increasing voters' influence in gov't
  - Regulating businesses



# Impact of Progressivism

- **Prison Reform**
  - End of convict lease system
  - Emergence of juvenile justice system
- **Labor Reforms**
  - Labor unions est w/ legal protection
  - Child labor laws passed
- **Woman's Suffrage achieved w/ passage of 19<sup>th</sup> amendment (1920)**
- **Temperance Movement leads fight to passage of 18<sup>th</sup> amendment (1919)**

# County Unit System

- Created in 1917; declared unconstitutional in 1962
- Gave rural, less populated counties more votes in state primaries than the more densely populated counties
- Gave control of state elections to rural areas



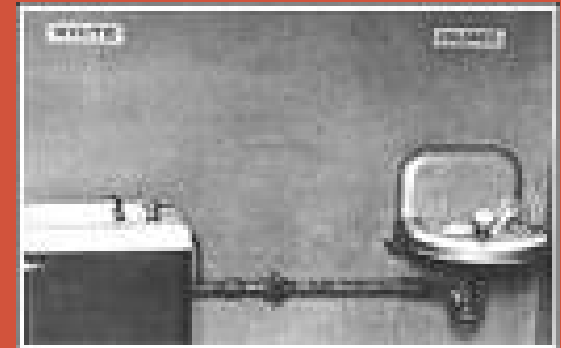
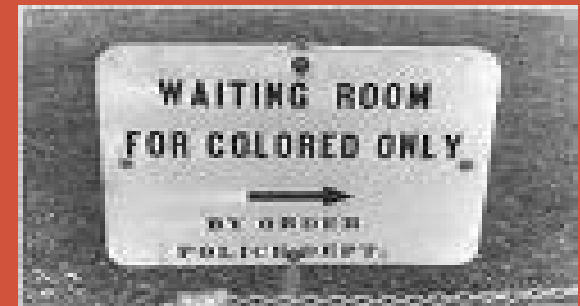
The **County Unit System** was introduced, to determine a victor in its primary elections.

In 1963, the county unit system was declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court. It found that the system violated the 'one man, one vote' principle

- Most of the political leaders in GA came from these lesser populated areas and this allowed them to remain in power.
- Also used to limit voting power of African Americans because more and more of them were moving to the cities for jobs in factories.

# The Fight for Civil Rights

- Civil rights – rights of all citizens
- Jim Crow laws – laws passed to establish “separate but equal” facilities for whites & blacks
- Plessy v. Ferguson – landmark Supreme Court case established legalized segregation with the phrase “separate but equal”; legally facilities for whites and blacks were now allowed to be separate. States now allowed to make laws promoting discrimination



# Disfranchisement Laws

- **Grandfather Clause** – only men whose grandfathers voted in 1867 could vote
- **Poll tax** – all voters had to pay a fee to vote
- **Literacy test** – all voters must take a reading &/or writing test to be allowed to vote
- **Gerrymandering** – voting district lines drawn to weaken African American voting power

No. **S38** Birmingham, Ala. *4/9* 1896  
Received of *J. M. Gillikin* (Col.) (White.)  
the sum of *1.50* Dollars  
in full of amount of Poll Tax for the year 1895.

Poll Tax,	1.50
Assessor's Fee,	50
Collector's Fee,	50

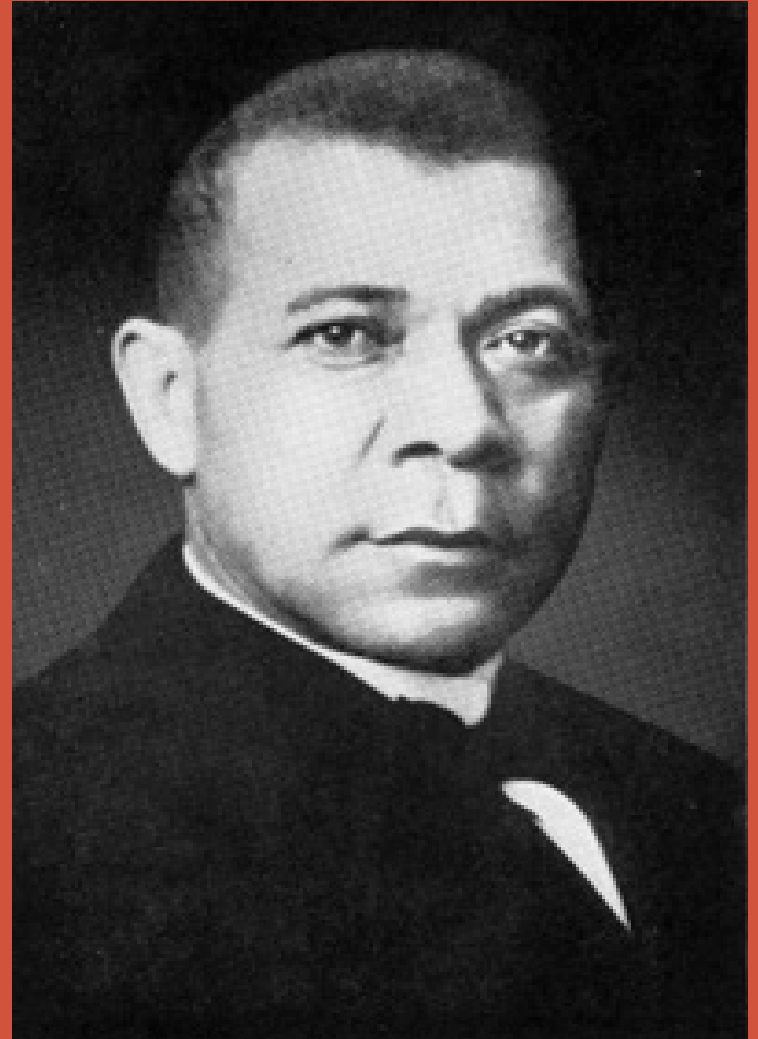
*A. M. M. P. T. C.*





# Civil Rights Leaders

- Booker T. Washington
  - President of Tuskegee Institute
  - Believed economic independence was the road to political & social independence
  - Famous for his Atlanta Compromise Speech
    - Encouraged blacks & whites to work together to achieve economic prosperity
    - Agreed to social segregation



# Civil Rights Leaders

- W.E.B. DuBois
  - Professor at Atlanta Univ
  - Opposed Washington's ideas
    - Believed there should be immediate social, political & economic integration & equality
    - Co-founded the NAACP
  - Talented 10<sup>th</sup>
    - Best & brightest African Americans – top 10% - should be well educated
    - This group would become the next generation of African American leaders



# Civil Rights Leaders

- John Hope
  - President of Atlanta University
  - Worked to restore calm during Atlanta Race Riots
  - Internationally known for work with YMCA
  - Leader in the field that became known as African American Studies
- Agreed with DuBois & supported total equality



# Civil Rights Leaders

- Lugenia Burns Hope
  - Wife of John Hope
  - Well known civic leader
  - Created the Neighborhood Union
    - Offered vocational classes
    - Health care
    - Clubs/programs for children
    - Financial aid for needy
    - Pressured city of Atlanta to improve roads, lighting & sanitation in African Am. neighborhoods



# Alonzo Herndon

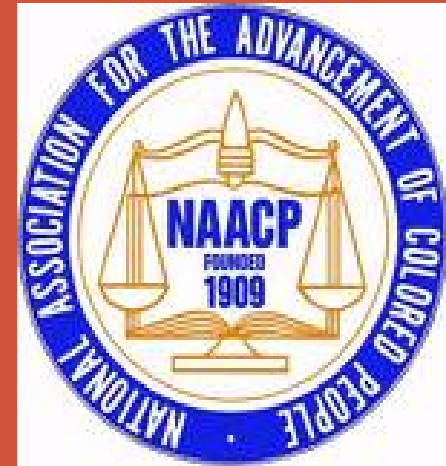
- Former slave
- Trained as a barber
- Built successful business & bought property in Atlanta
- Bought Atlanta Mutual Insurance Company
  - Hired African American college grads to run business
  - Became Atlanta Life Insurance Company
  - Grew to become 1 of the largest African American owned businesses in the US



# Civil Rights Organizations Emerge

- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

- Interracial organization formed in 1909
- Grew out of the Niagara Movement
- Goal: work for rights of African Americans



- National Urban League

- Interracial organization formed in 1910
- Goal: help urban blacks with social problems related to living in cities



# Racial Unrest & Problems

- 1906 Atlanta Race Riots

- Atlanta newspapers falsely reported assaults on whites by blacks
- Fears caused attacks
- Riots lasted 2 days
  - Martial law declared
  - 18 African Americans killed; 3 whites killed
  - 100s injured
  - High rates of property damaged – not accurately estimated



# More Civil Rights Problems

## Leo Frank Trial

- Brooklyn, NY born Frank was Jewish; factory superintendent
- Accused & convicted of murdering 14 yr old Mary Phagan, a factory worker, on little evidence. Main witness was the black janitor (also a suspect)
- Sentenced to death
- Sentence commuted to life
- Frank lynched by angry mob when his sentence was commuted
- Result was the re-emergence of KKK in GA & the US based on anti-Semitism and racial bias





# Cotton States Exposition of 1895

- Formally known as Cotton States and International Exposition
- 3 months long; held in Atlanta at Piedmont Park
- Showcase for economic recovery in the South
  - Highlighted cotton manufacturing
  - Natural resources
  - Wanted to lure continued northern investment

