



North Carolina: People, Places, and Progress

Chapter 10: The Industrial Transition

Quick Notes



Section 1: Railroads Lead to Town Growth

➤ Essential Question:

- What impact did North Carolina's transition to an industrial state have on the residents of different parts of the state?



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Section 1: Railroads Lead to Town Growth

- What terms do I need to know?
- transition



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Introduction

- North Carolina's towns grew quickly after Reconstruction
- Wilmington remained the state's largest town and seaport, but was no longer the only large town in the state
 - Charlotte, Winston, and Asheville were all growing similar in size to Wilmington
- North Carolina was in a time of transition



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Reasons for the Transition

- The first reason for the transition was the restoration of the railroads during Reconstruction, which finally connected the state with the rest of the country
 - North Carolinians could trade easily and cheaply with the rest of the country for the first time
- Trade encouraged the growth of towns along the railroads
- The second reason for the transition was that the state began to process their raw materials they produced (tobacco, cotton, etc.) to receive a higher profit
 - This led to the building of factories and greater industrialization in the state
- By 1900, North Carolina was becoming the most industrial state in the South



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Concord, an Industrial Town

- During the Civil War, Concord had fewer than 1,000 residents and only 1 factory
- Once the railroads were revived, they began to grow more cotton and revived the cotton factory, and by the 1890s they had half a dozen cotton mills
- By 1900, more than 4,000 people lived in Concord and most were involved in the new industrial work
- Many of Concord's residents lived in the mill village, where factory workers lived in houses rented from the factory owners



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New Towns on the Railroads

- Many new towns were built during this period along the railroads
- Many of the towns had been hamlets (small settlements) before becoming thriving industrial towns within 30 years
- The development of new towns hurt the older towns that weren't connected to the railroads
 - The building of the new towns stopped the growth of the older towns that were less connected



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The Rise of Charlotte

- The largest shift in size in the western side of the state was in the importance of Charlotte and Salisbury
 - The towns were about the same before the Civil War, but afterwards Salisbury was less connected to the railroads
- By 1900, Charlotte was the intersection of railroads from 6 directions and had nearly 18,000 residents
- In every growing town, the factories were as important as the railroads in the process of development



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Section 2: Tobacco and Textiles Spur the Transition

- Essential Question:
 - What factors led to the development of the tobacco and textile industries in North Carolina?



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Section 2: Tobacco and Textiles Spur the Transition

- What terms do I need to know?
 - bright leaf tobacco
 - monopoly



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Introduction

- North Carolinians did their best to take advantage of the opportunities made available by the railroads
- Their two main products were tobacco and cotton, which led to North Carolinians building their own factories to process the raw materials and sell their goods for a higher price



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Bright Leaf Tobacco

- In 1852, a slave on a plantation discovered that controlled heat improved the curing of tobacco, leading farmers to start “flue-curing” their tobacco
 - This improved product was called bright leaf tobacco (the heat that dried the leaves turned them bright yellow)
- The railroads made North Carolina’s bright leaf tobacco known worldwide
- Businessmen began to compete to sell the cured tobacco all over the United States



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Buck Duke's Monopoly

- In the 1880s, James Buchanan Duke decided to start selling pre-rolled cigarettes, rolled by a machine, rather than just the loose tobacco
- Bright leaf tobacco had made Americans more likely to use cigarettes than a pipe
- "Buck" Duke gained rights to a machine that could roll cigarettes 40 times faster than a human roller
- Duke became one of the richest Americans and was known throughout the country for his tobacco monopoly (meaning he personally controlled most tobacco production in the country)
- The men of the tobacco industry put some of their wealth into North Carolina's other important industry-cotton textiles



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Cotton Mills along the Railroads

- North Carolinians had built cotton mills along streams before the railroads, but shipping was a problem
- After the Civil War, manufacturers moved their mills along the railroads to make shipping easier and cheaper
- By the 1890s, cotton mills were operating in nearly every town along the railroad
 - One reason for Charlotte's growth was its development of machine shops and warehouses to supply parts to factories



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Steam Power Aids Manufacturing

- Most of the factories in North Carolina were run with steam engines, just like the trains, so they didn't depend on water power from streams
- Factories in the state produced many different types of products, like brooms, drainpipes, mattresses, and candy
 - The Wallace brothers of Statesville bought various plants from merchants in the mountains and shipped them to drug companies in the North

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Section 3: Transition in the Towns

- Essential Question:
 - How did the growth of towns impact the growth of other institutions, such as schools and churches?



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Section 3: Transition in the Towns

- What terms do I need to know?
 - graded school
 - normal school



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Introduction

- Life in North Carolina became more urban after Reconstruction
- More people began to go to church as towns grew, and the amount of churches in towns multiplied
 - Downtown churches started chapels in the mill villages
- In all these churches, Sunday schools were started



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New Schools and Colleges

- Towns introduced a new form of education—the graded school
- Graded schools required students to pass certain tests before proceeding on to the next grade
- In most cases, a graded school for white children led to the construction of a separate graded school for black children
- Higher education became part of town life, and the state expanded its public education to include industrial education
- More women were teaching in the graded schools, so normal schools (teacher-training institutions) were started
- Many churches also started colleges during this period throughout the state
- African American colleges grew after Reconstruction as well, including normal schools



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New Technologies and Ideas

- The new schools introduced not only the new ways of industry but new technologies
- Telephones, electric streetlights, electric streetcars, and other new technologies spread throughout the state during this period
- North Carolina also adopted a new type of bank called the Commercial Nation Bank (as part of the new national banking system introduced by Congress)
- Daily newspapers became common in towns, allowing the new stores to advertise and encouraging new industries and investments
- The increasing need for workers in the factories had led to problems for farmers—many were as poor and disadvantaged as their ancestors had been before the railroads were built

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Section 4: Transitions in the Countryside

- Essential Question:
 - What problems did farmers in North Carolina face during this period of transition?



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Section 4: Transitions in the Countryside

- What terms do I need to know?
 - furnishing merchant
 - Farmers' Alliance
 - farmer cooperative store
 - money supply
 - collateral
 - Populist Party



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Introduction

- While the urban population increased, the majority of North Carolina's residents continued to live in the country
- Many farming communities were growing as fast as the towns during this period
- By 1890, there were so many farm families that there wasn't enough good land fertile enough to raise crops



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More Farms, Same Amount of Land

- Most farming families stayed on their land for generations
- More and more land was being planted, but much of it wasn't good land, and farmers had a harder time making things grow
- To compensate, farmers borrowed money from furnishing merchants, storekeepers who let them buy fertilizer, seeds, tools, and other supplies
 - The farmers would owe interest to the storekeeper, and some required the farmer to sell their crops to the storekeeper they borrowed from



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Falling Crop Prices

- Farmers increased the size of their crops to help pay back their loans, which lowered the price of crops
 - The more they grew, the less they got back
- Thousands of farmers throughout the state went broke in the 1890s and couldn't pay back the loans to merchants, and their debts continued to increase



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A Growing Number of Sharecroppers

- Many white farmers ended up in sharecropping agreements as their debts increased
- The landowner usually required the farmer to plant only one crop—usually cotton or tobacco—that was sure to sell
- Thousands of farmers were so discouraged that they moved to towns to take industrial jobs
- North Carolina College of Agricultural and Mechanical Arts was opened to help farmers learn more efficient methods of farming, but most farmers couldn't afford college
- By the 1890s, the state's farmers had organized into angry political protest groups



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Farmers' Organizations

- Leonidas L. Polk became the first commissioner of agriculture in the state, then editor of a farming newspaper to help farmers
- The Farmers' Alliance (started in Texas) reached North Carolina in 1887 with Polk as its leader
- The Alliance opened farmer cooperative stores, which bought fertilizer and other supplies in bulk to lower the cost to farmers, but most farmers were already too far in debt to be helped
- The U.S. was rapidly building cities in the North, and the money supply throughout the country was decreasing each year
 - The Alliance asked Congress to print new money to loan to farmers, who would use their crops as collateral (something pledged against the repayment of a loan)

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Section 5: A Troubled End to the Century

- Essential Question:
 - What significant events led up to the 1898 election and how did its results impact North Carolina?



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Section 5: A Troubled End to the Century

- What terms do I need to know?
 - Fusionists
 - white supremacy



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Introduction

- North Carolina and the United States were involved in conflict at the end of the 19th century
- Democrats returned to power in North Carolina in the election of 1898, leading to an outbreak of violence in Wilmington
- The United States entered into a war against Spain in 1898, which ended quickly



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The Fusion Movement

- The Populists in North Carolina ran for the state legislature and Congress in the 1890s
- When Populists didn't win in 1892, Republicans offered to help them win in 1894 in return for restoring some of the Holden reforms
- The Fusionists controlled North Carolina from 1895-1898
 - They restored many Holden reforms and attempted to improve schools in rural areas
- These reforms restored the fortunes of Republicans in the states, and the reformers tried to help the poor of both races in the state



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The 1898 Election

- The Fusionist ideas alarmed the Democrats
- Eastern Democrats decided to repeat the same racial slurs they used during Reconstruction to regain white voters
- Democrats took back control of North Carolina with their white supremacy campaign (the belief that the white race is superior to any other race)
 - Racial tensions and violence worsened throughout the state and Democrats won a narrow victory and took back the legislature
- Violence swept through Wilmington after election day as white mobs took vengeance on African American Republicans who had been in charge of the city, and at least 60 residents were murdered



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The Spanish-American War

- The United States went to war with Spain in 1898 over conditions in Cuba
- During the Spanish-American War, America quickly won victories in Cuba and the Philippine Islands in the Pacific
 - The U.S. eventually annexed (took control of) the Philippines and helped Cuba become independent
- North Carolina raised three military regiments for the war, though none of them came under fire during the war
 - Several state residents were later killed serving with the Philippine occupation forces



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