

# CHAPTER 19

# Politics & Progress

## Why It Matters

*The construction of railroads through West Texas made settlement by farmers and ranchers possible. The farmers and ranchers became dependent upon railroads for both the goods they bought and the products they sold. That dependence on railroads eventually caused economic problems and discontent.*

## The Impact Today

*Many of the important cities and towns of West Texas were settled along the railroad lines during the late 1800s. The coming of the railroads gave Texas a great economic boost.*



**1876**  
★ Texas constitution ratified

Texas

United States

1870

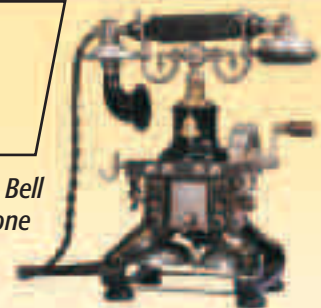
1880

World

**1873**  
• Susan B. Anthony convicted of voting in 1872 election

**1875**  
• Third Republic of France formed

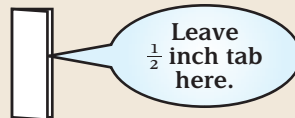
**1876**  
• Alexander Graham Bell invented the telephone



### Categorizing Information Study Foldable

Make this foldable to help you ask and answer questions about politics and progress in Texas.

**Step 1** Fold a sheet of paper in half from side to side, leaving a  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch tab along the side.



**Step 2** Turn the paper and fold it into fourths.



**Step 3** Unfold and cut up along the three fold lines.



**Step 4** Turn your foldable and label it as shown.



**Reading and Writing** Before you read, browse the chapter and list questions you have about politics and progress of the late 1800s under the appropriate tabs of your foldable. Then read the chapter and write answers to the questions.



This color lithograph of Laredo (1892) reflects the growth and development that occurred in many Texas towns during this period.

**1888**  
★ New Capitol dedicated in Austin



**1891**  
★ Texas Railroad Commission established

**1893**  
★ Texas Equal Rights Association established

1890

1900

**1887**  
• U.S. Congress created Interstate Commerce Commission

**1890**  
• U.S. Congress passed Sherman Antitrust Act

**1900**  
• Sigmund Freud wrote *The Interpretation of Dreams*

**1889**  
• Alexander Gustave Eiffel designed the Eiffel Tower



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# Reconstruction Ends

## Guide to Reading

### Main Idea

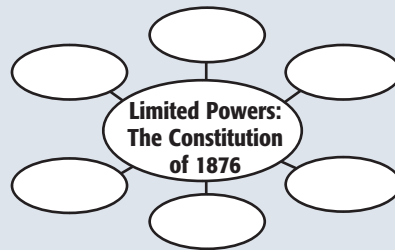
A new constitution changed the political and social scene of Texas in the late 1800s.

### Key Terms

suffrage  
pension  
vigilante

### Reading Strategy

**Organizing Information** Complete a web like the one shown here.



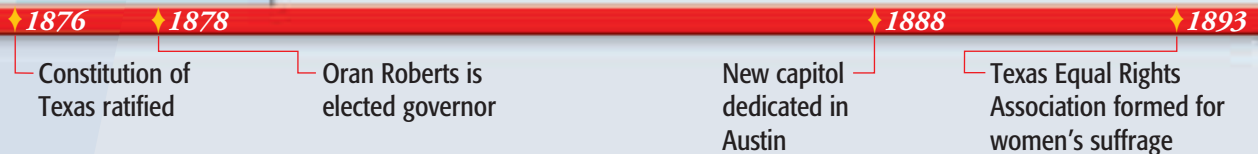
### Read to Learn

- why a new constitution was written.
- about major achievements of the Texas state government in the late 1800s.

### Section Theme

**Government and Democracy** The Constitution of 1876 limited the powers of the Texas state government.

### Preview of Events



*Daily journal*

## A Texas Story



As a child, Ethel Anna Pearce wrote in her journal of the hardships of workers' families during the westward construction of the railroads. "At sunup the wind began to blow and soon a notorious sand storm was raging. The wind and sand rocked and beat the little shack all day. The living room withstood the storm, but the roof began to rip away. [Mother] overturned an empty water barrel, climbed upon it, and just as she thought it was nailed secure, a harder gust of wind ripped away all the roof. Sand poured into the house."

### A New Era Brings New Concerns

The late 1800s were a time of growth and expansion in Texas. Ambitious people spread a network of railroads throughout the state. Agriculture boomed. Existing industries expanded and new ones began.

The growing population and economy meant added wealth for the state and new problems and public concerns. Many political and social issues that remained from the Reconstruction Era also had to be addressed.

## Democrats Rewrite the Constitution

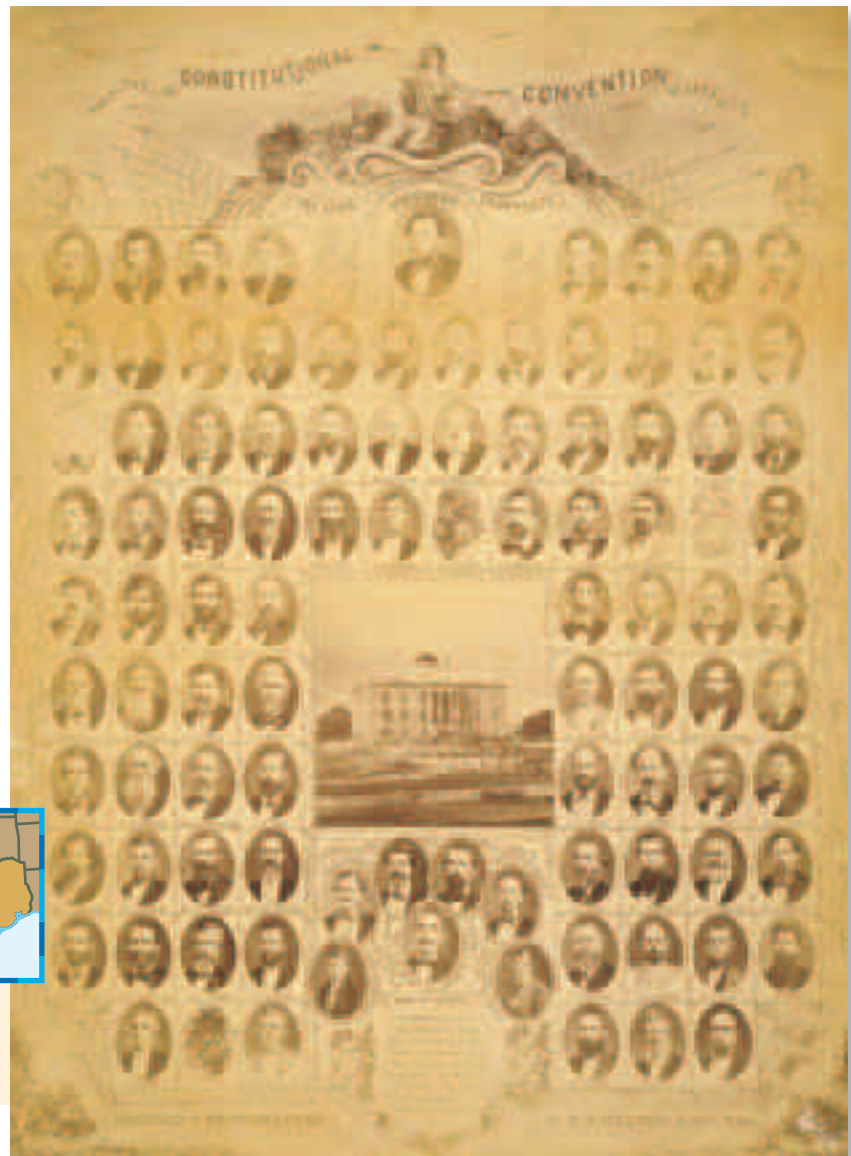
In 1874 Democrats regained the governorship in Texas. One of the party's first goals was to write a new constitution. For this purpose, 90 delegates met in Austin in 1875. Many of the delegates objected to the Constitution of 1869 because it was written by Radical Republicans. Most of the delegates believed the old constitution gave too much power to a few state officials. Seventy-five of the delegates were Democrats. Six of the 15 Republican delegates were African Americans. None of the delegates had helped write the Constitution of 1869.

The new **Constitution of 1876** created a government with limited powers. The powers of the governor were reduced, the legislature was authorized to meet only once every two years, and the length of the legislators' terms were set. The Constitution also lowered the salaries of state employees, promised low taxes, and reduced the amount of money to be spent on education. The Fifteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution guaranteed the right of men to vote, but convention delegates ignored requests to

grant **suffrage** (the right to vote) to women. The Constitution of 1876 defined voting eligibility, and those who were denied the vote included "idiots, lunatics, paupers, and felons." Women were not even mentioned.

The Constitution was ratified in 1876 by a large majority of voters. It reflected the concerns of the times and suited people's needs fairly well. As times and needs changed, however, the document had to be amended many times. The Constitution of 1876 is still the constitution of Texas, but it is long and complicated, with almost 400 amendments.

 **Reading Check** **Explaining** Why was the Constitution of 1869 replaced with a new constitution?



### Picturing History

The poster at right shows the delegates to the 1875 Constitutional Convention. **What characteristic do all the delegates share?**

## Democrats Control State Politics

Most leaders elected to public office after the end of Reconstruction were Democrats. These officials generally were cautious and conservative. To reduce public spending and lower taxes, they cut public services, such as education and hospitals for the mentally ill. They also passed laws restricting the rights of African Americans living in Texas.

Some African Americans turned to federal courts for protection. For instance, when Mary Miller was forcibly ejected from her seat in the “white ladies’ circle” of the Galveston Tremont Opera House, she sued for damages in federal court. Mary Miller won her case when the opera owner was found guilty of depriving her of her civil rights. When the judge later dismissed the \$500 fine, an outraged black community rallied in protest.

The Republican Party continued to exist and run candidates in state and local elections, but the party had little power. Between 1868 and 1898, some 60 African Americans served in the state legislature or participated in important political conventions. African American state senators **George Ruby** and **Matt Gaines**, who served during the administration of Governor Edmund Davis, played leading roles in advocating an unsegregated public school system. (Despite their best efforts, the public schools were segregated until the 1950s.)

Many African Americans remained loyal to the Texas Republican Party. **Norris Wright Cuney** of Galveston was the most influential African American of his day. Cuney was a leading Republican, a party national committeeman, and the collector of customs for the Port of Galveston—the most important federal position in Texas. Another African American—**William “Gooseneck Bill” McDonald** of Fort Worth—became a party leader near the end of the 1800s. In counties where the African American population was large, African American men sometimes were elected to local office.



Norris Wright Cuney

Frequently, however, efforts were made to prevent African Americans from voting. They often were threatened, denied jobs, or harmed if they tried to take part in politics or vote.

Mexican Americans were active in politics during this period and also served in the legislature. **Santos Benavides** represented Laredo, and **Gregorio N. García** was elected from El Paso. Many officeholders in South Texas were Mexican Americans.

**Reading Check** **Drawing Conclusions** Which party did many African Americans support and why?

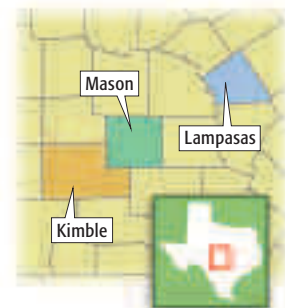
## Spending Cuts Reduce State Debt

The public finances of Texas were in serious trouble at the end of Reconstruction. The \$3 million public debt was rising. Governor Richard Coke insisted on cutting government expenses. **Richard Hubbard**, who succeeded Coke, also tried to economize, but the public debt increased to about \$5.5 million by the spring of 1879.

The budget was finally balanced as the economy improved during the administration of **Governor Oran M. Roberts**, who took office in 1879. Roberts insisted that the legislature cut veterans’ **pensions**, or wages paid after military service, and funds for schools. He left the finances of Texas in good condition.

## Lawmen Keep Order

Lawlessness was a major problem in Texas after the Civil War. Many unemployed people flocked to less settled areas of the state. Some turned to robbing trains, stagecoaches, and banks. Common but serious crimes included horse theft and cattle rustling. Bitter feuds raged in Mason, Lampasas, and Kimble Counties.



Restoring law and order was a major accomplishment for the state government and other groups during these years. Various communities



### **Picturing History**

When the Texas Capitol was rebuilt (work began in 1882), the dome was deliberately made seven feet taller than the U.S. Capitol in Washington, D.C. The Texas Capitol is the largest of all the state capitols. **Why was it**

**necessary to build a new Texas Capitol in 1882?**



formed **vigilante** committees. These volunteers punished suspected criminals quickly, but punishment was harsh and not legal. Courageous sheriffs and other local officers worked hard to enforce laws.

The **Texas Rangers**, reorganized by Governor Coke, joined local officers in the fight against crime. The Rangers pursued train bandits, bank robbers, and cattle thieves. They captured or killed outlaws like Sam Bass. The Rangers also dealt with feuding families and were active in stopping the fence-cutting wars of the 1880s.

## **Texas Needs a Capitol**

The Constitution of 1876 included a plan for a new capitol. The need for another building became essential after the old Capitol and many valuable state records burned on November 9, 1881. A Chicago company was hired to handle the construction. For payment, the company received 3 million acres (1.2 million hectares) of land, which became the famous XIT Ranch.

Work began in 1882, and the new Capitol was officially dedicated in 1888. Modeled after the U.S. Capitol, the building was constructed of sunset red granite from Marble Falls. Scottish stonecutters shaped the granite blocks, each weighing as much as 16,000 pounds (7,258 kg).

## **Women Fight for Their Rights**

By 1900, women in Texas accounted for about half the population but did not enjoy the same legal rights as men. Women's rights to own property or conduct business were limited.

It took Texas women 50 years of hard work and three different organizations to finally win suffrage. The fight began after the Civil War during the Constitutional Convention of 1868–69 and ended when women won the right to vote in Democratic Party primaries in 1918 and, later, in general elections in 1920.

In 1888 the Woman's Christian Temperance Union was the first Texas group to publicly endorse woman suffrage. It believed that if women could vote, they would help get a law passed prohibiting the sale of alcohol. In 1893, Rebecca Henry Hayes founded the **Texas Equal Rights Association** in Dallas. The 48 charter members, including 9 men, paid dues of 50 cents a year. The association grew rapidly statewide, and soon newspapers were covering its activities.

The Texas Federation of Women's Clubs, the Texas Farmers' Alliance, and the Texas Federation of Labor also supported suffrage efforts. Still, women were not immediately successful. Opponents of suffrage believed that if women voted, they would lose their femininity. "Politics

are too bad for a lady to mix in,” wrote one legislator. The women of Texas would not gain the right to vote until after World War I.

## Women at Work

Texas women have always worked, but they have not always been paid for it. Around 1900, most continued to work in their homes as wives, mothers, and homemakers—and about

half worked on family farms or ranches. But many began entering the paid labor force for the first time as farm workers, laundresses, and domestics. Hope Thompson, a former slave who became

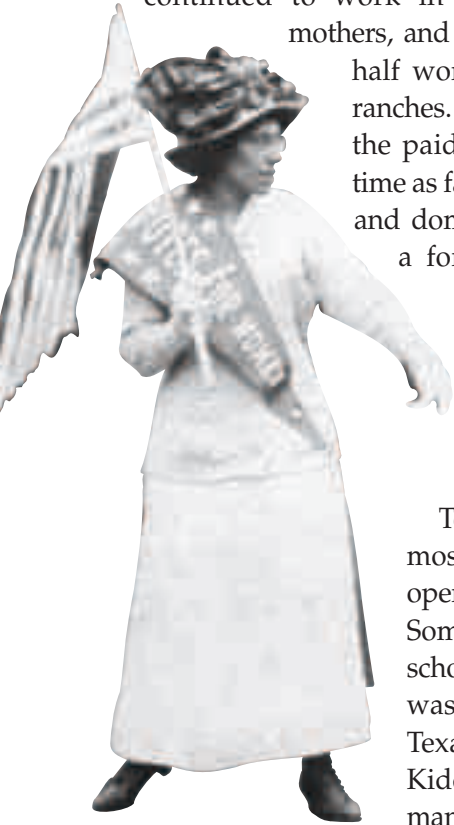
a laundress, borrowed \$50 from a customer, invested it in a downtown Dallas property, then sold the property in the late 1880s for \$25,000.

Teaching was one of the most accepted professions open to women at this time. Some women even founded schools. Lucy Ann Kidd-Key was principal of the North Texas Female College (later Kidd-Key College) in Sherman in 1888. In 1892, Mattie B. White established a private

school for African American girls in Austin. Leonor Villegas de Magnon and other Mexican American women founded *escuelitas*, or little schools, offering bilingual education and excellent academic instruction. A few women were physicians. One of these was Dr. Sofie Herzog of Vienna, Austria, mother of 15 children, who became the chief surgeon for the St. Louis, Brownsville, and Mexico Railroad in South Texas. Her specialty was digging bullets out of gunshot wounds. She also enjoyed collecting snakes.

Other women worked as journalists, artists, and merchants. Several were locomotive engineers. Women also broke ground as secretaries, telephone operators, and department store clerks. In 1872, Martha Bickler became the state government’s first female worker—a clerk in the General Land Office.

Women made important contributions in the arts as well. **Elisabet Ney**, for example, was a noted European sculptor who immigrated to Texas in 1872. After living for a time near Hempstead, she established a studio in Austin. A courageous, independent artist, Ney won wide acclaim for her statues of Stephen F. Austin and Sam Houston, which were erected on the Capitol grounds. Other works by Ney are displayed in Europe, in the Art Institute of Chicago, and in the National Museum of American Art in Washington, D.C. Each year many people visit the Austin home of Elisabet Ney, which is now a museum.



Suffragist

**Reading Check Analyzing** Why were women denied the right to vote for so long?

## SECTION 1 ASSESSMENT

### Checking for Understanding

- Using Key Terms** Define *suffrage*, *pension*, and *vigilante*.
- Reviewing Facts** What constitution does Texas use today? Approximately how many amendments does it have?

### Reviewing Themes

- Government and Democracy** How did public officials reduce public spending and lower taxes?

### Organizing to Learn

- Creating Charts** Create a chart like the one below. Fill in the governor who was in office at the time of each budget-related event.

Event	Governor
Public debt rose to \$3 million	
Public debt rose to \$5.5 million	
Pensions were cut	

### Critical Thinking

- Contrasting** How were vigilante committees different from sheriffs and local officers?



### Determining Supporting Details

Read the following sentence from the text: “Lawlessness was a major problem in Texas after the Civil War.” Find at least three details that support this statement.

## SECTION 2

# Transportation and Industry

### Guide to Reading

#### Main Idea

Railroads, other transportation, and industry boomed in the late 1800s. Railroads impacted the growth of towns and industries.

#### Key Term

refinery

#### Reading Strategy

**Organizing Information** Complete a chart listing the industries that began in the counties listed.

Counties	Industry
Palo Pinto	
Rusk	
Brown	

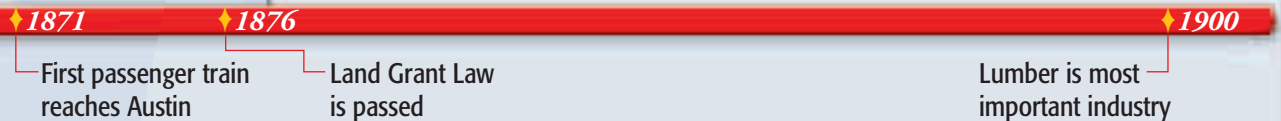
#### Read to Learn

- how the railroad boom occurred.
- what other forms of transportation developed in Texas.
- what major industries contributed to the growth of Texas's economy.

#### Section Theme

**Economic Factors** Railroads moved people and goods quickly and efficiently.

#### Preview of Events



## A Texas Story



Stagecoach bringing mail

Runnels County needed a courthouse but couldn't afford to build one. Ethel Anna Pearce's father rented rooms in his house to the county. In her diary, Ethel Anna wrote, "The court rented our front room for a court room . . . The next room was used for the Post Office and restaurant, and the family lived in the back room . . . The mail was kept in a tool chest." The rent money helped the family meet expenses.

### Texans Demand Railroad Service

Before 1900 most families traveled by wagons and buggies. A 20-mile (32-km) trip into town took most of a day and usually required an overnight stay. "Going to town" for many isolated families might happen only once or twice a year.



The poor transportation system slowed the development of Texas. Farmers and merchants in many areas of the state could not market their products profitably. For example, the freight charges on cotton grown in West Texas and shipped by wagon to Galveston amounted to more than one-half the value of the crop.

Railroads could solve these problems with the promise to move people and goods quickly and cheaply. People believed that railroads would help farms, ranches, and businesses to prosper.

## A Network of Steel Connects Texas

Before the Civil War, 11 railroad companies had constructed some 400 miles (644 km) of track in Texas. The war halted construction, and little was accomplished during the Reconstruction Era.

Railroad companies made rapid progress after 1870. In 1872 the first railroad connections were made with other states. Many towns paid railroad companies to build lines through their communities. To encourage the building of railroads, the state provided land grants to railroad companies. The **Land Grant Law of 1876** authorized 16 sections of land to be granted to a railroad company for every mile of track that it laid. During rail line construction, more than 32 million acres (13 million hectares) of land were given to 41 railroad companies. The railroad companies

re-sold the land to ranchers and farmers. In this way, the railroad companies could make money before the railroad was ready for use. Companies built rails from the Gulf Coast northward across the state, while other lines entered Texas from the east. Three major railroads sprawled across West Texas in the 1880s.

By 1900 a network of railroads totaling some 10,000 miles (16,000 km) spread over the state. Journeys that once required days or weeks now lasted only hours. Settlers in West Texas often built their towns near the railroad lines. Cities where several railroads met became busy centers of commerce. Houston, Dallas, Fort Worth, and other cities developed rapidly because they were railroad centers. Communities such as Tascosa and Estacado, bypassed by the railroad lines, became ghost towns.

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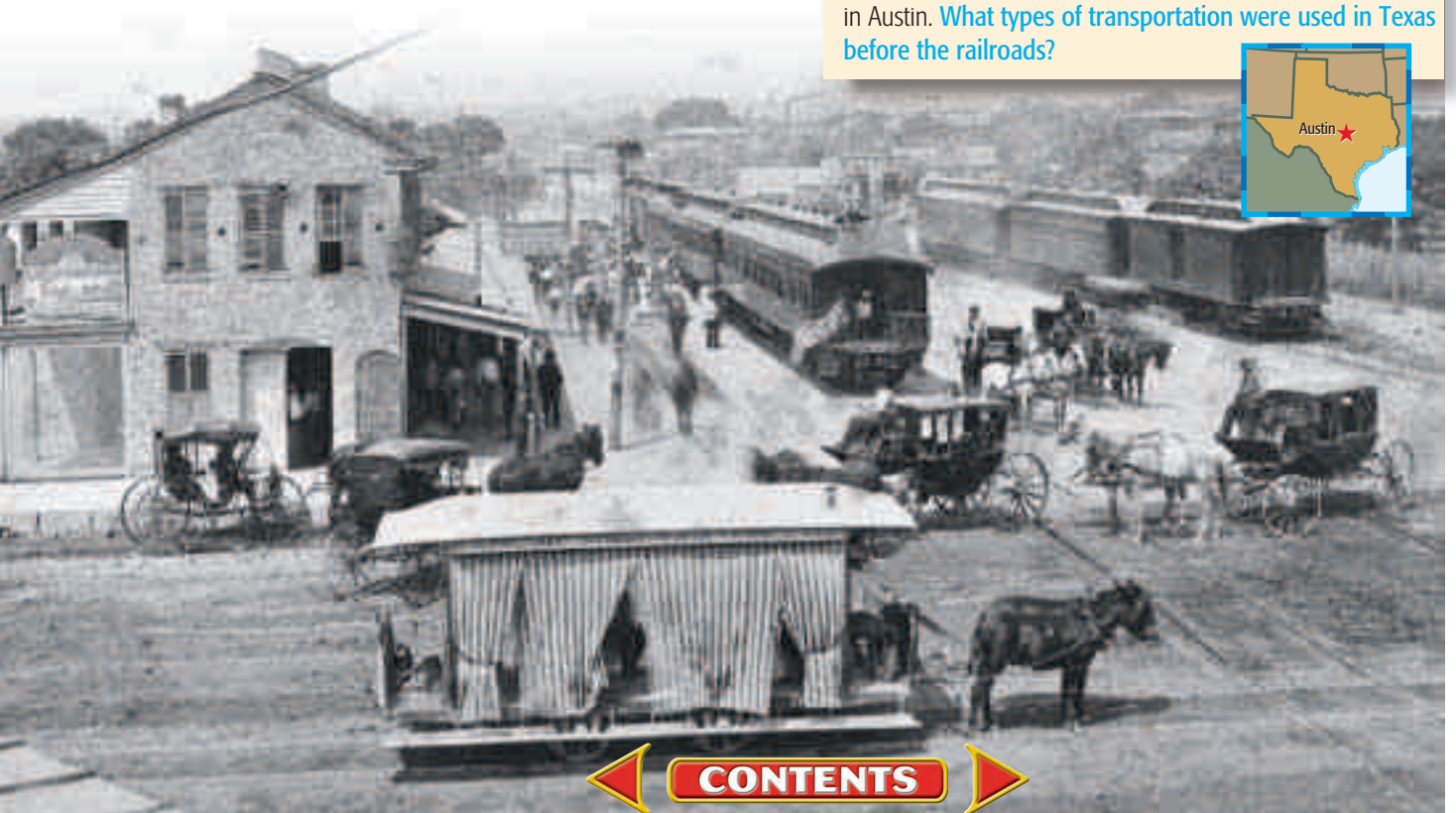
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Online

### Student Web Activity

Visit the [texans.glencoe.com](http://texans.glencoe.com) Web site and click on **Chapter 19—Student Web Activity** to learn more about railroads and land grants.

### Picturing History

The coming of the railroads in the late 1800s gave Texas a great economic boost. This busy railway depot was located in Austin. **What types of transportation were used in Texas before the railroads?**



CONTENTS

# Major Railroads in Texas, c. 1900



**TAKS PRACTICE**

After the 1870s, railroads began to crisscross Texas.

**Identifying Information** Name the major east-west railroads identified on the map.

When a railroad finally reached a town, it was cause for a great celebration. The first passenger trains reached Austin on December 25, 1871. The local newspaper reported:

“On the morning of [December] 25th a telegram was received from Houston stating that two . . . passenger trains had left that place and would arrive at Austin about 4. As the hour approached the whole city seemed [to be winding] their way to the station.

Four o’clock came, but with the hour was received the disheartening news by telegram from McDade, that the trains had just reached that point, and . . . the guests would not arrive in Austin until after dark . . . [It] was decided that the procession should [begin at once anyway] . . .

[A cannon] had been stationed on the hill near the depot, . . . in position to give a salute on the arrival of the guests. Hours passed away, and an anxious crowd waited in breathless

expectation . . . [At 6:30,] a flash from the headlight down the track told that the train cars were coming, and in another instant the shrill whistle was heard, waking the darkness into renewed life. Cheer after cheer . . . arose from the assembled throng, until the trains had swept up in all their majesty, and . . . delivered their living freight of one thousand human beings.”

—*The Democratic Statesman*, 1871

**Reading Check** **Describing** Why did so much excitement surround the arrival of the railroads?

## Transportation Improves

No road system supported by state taxes existed in the late 1800s. Each county built and maintained the roads and bridges within its own boundaries. Rainy weather turned unpaved roads into ruts and mud holes. Dust and dirt in dry weather made travel equally unpleasant.





### Picturing History

Transportation in Dallas and other cities began to accommodate rapid growth in population and industry. **What types of transportation do you see in this photograph?**



Travel did improve in some cities, however. For example, by 1887 San Antonio claimed 40 miles (64 km) of sidewalks and 8 miles (13 km) of hard-surfaced streets. In 1903 Houston had 26 miles (42 km) of pavement. Brick was probably the most common paving material, but cities experimented with other products. San Antonio even paved some streets with mesquite wood.

Streetcars appeared in the 1870s. Mules and horses pulled the first street cars, but electric-powered trolleys were running by the 1890s. Ten years later, an occasional automobile could be seen in Texas cities. In fact, it was the growing popularity of the automobile that ultimately led the state to improve the roads.

## Telephones in Texas

Rapid communication made an important contribution to the growth of industry. In the area of cotton farming, the price of cotton was set in the cotton markets of Memphis and New Orleans. Cotton brokers traded contracts to buy and sell cotton much like investors buy and sell shares of stock today. Traders who knew the price of cotton in New Orleans before any of their competitors did could use that knowledge to a huge advantage.

The publisher of the *Galveston News*, Colonel A.H. Belo, attended the Philadelphia Centennial

Exposition of 1876. While there, he saw Alexander Graham Bell's new invention—the telephone. He was determined to have one, and in 1878 Belo installed the first telephone in Texas between his home and his office. Within a year hundreds of other Galvestonians had telephones, and a centralized switchboard was necessary.

Brownsville, Palestine, Fort Worth, Waco, Denison, and Texarkana were some of the cities that had telephone service by 1882. By 1883 Galveston and Houston were linked with long distance telephone service. The equipment was crude by modern standards. Every telephone call had to be connected by employees called *operators*. The first operators were men, but in 1884 the telephone companies began hiring women. Before long all operators were women.

## Industries Begin and Grow

Texas industry in 1870 was in its infancy. Less than 1 percent of the population worked in industrial jobs. Even though industries were only small shops that supplied the needs of the local communities, the shops made many products. Gristmills that ground corn and wheat made up the largest industry in the state. Other Texas products included lumber, buggies, wagons, plows, boots, harnesses, saddles, textiles, bricks, furniture, fishnets, glue, and soap.

New industries appeared in Texas following the Civil War. In 1868 the meat-packing industry began in the city of Victoria. In the next 30 years, several modern packing plants were built in Fort Worth, and refrigerated railroad cars moved the meat to the customers. By 1900 manufacturing cottonseed into oil and other products became the second-ranking industry in the state.




Oilmen drilled the first wells and built the first **refineries** for crude oil processing during this time. A hand-dug oil well in Brown County in central Texas in 1878 produced oil that was used as a medicine and as a lubricant. An oil field near Corsicana in East Texas in the late 1890s produced oil for use as a locomotive fuel and as an application for dusty streets. Oil would not become a major industry in Texas, however, until the twentieth century.

**Reading Check Evaluating** What were some of the major industries in Texas near the turn of the century?

## Lumber and Minerals


By 1900 lumbering was the most important and valuable industry in the state. Timber companies harvested the pine forests of East Texas and built towns along the Neches and Sabine Rivers. Orange and Beaumont became major sawmill centers. Most of the lumber was used in construction.

After railroads were built to carry ore eastward, mining became an important part of the industrial economy. Coal mining began in Palo Pinto and Erath Counties. Although Thurber later became a ghost town, it was the center of coal mining operations in the state for many years. Salt came from mines at Grand Saline, and iron ore was produced at Rusk and Jefferson.



### A Shared Past...

**B**uilding the railroads stimulated a tourist boom in the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains. Rich Europeans, such as princes and dukes, came to the American West in grand hunting parties. They also liked to visit and be photographed with Native Americans. Artists who had been trained in Europe came to the West and painted landscapes of the beautiful scenery. The U.S. Congress preserved some of those views when it designated Yellowstone as the first national park in 1872.



## SECTION 2 ASSESSMENT

### Checking for Understanding

- Using Key Terms** Use the word **refinery** in a sentence.
- Reviewing Facts** When were the first railroad connections made between Texas and other states?

### Reviewing Themes

- Economic Factors** Railroads were very important to the economy of Texas in the late 1800s. How did the state encourage the building of railroads?

### Organizing to Learn

- Creating Tables** Create a table like the one below. Fill in the years of transportation and industry milestones.

Year	Milestone
	First passenger train reached Austin
	First telephone installed in Texas
	Houston had 26 miles of pavement
	Meat-packing industry began in Victoria

### Critical Thinking

- Describing** Railroad companies invested a huge amount of time and money before they could show any profit. How did these companies make money before their railroads were ready for use?



### TAKS PRACTICE

**Determining Cause and Effect**  
Why did some Texas cities develop rapidly while others became ghost towns?

# Technology TAKS Skillbuilder



## Using a Database

### Why Learn This Skill?

A computerized database program can help you organize and manage a large amount of information. After entering data in a database table, you can quickly locate the information by using key words.

### Learning the Skill

An electronic database is a collection of facts that are stored in a file on the computer. The information is organized into categories called *fields*. For example, one field may be the names of your friends. Another field may be their street addresses. All the related fields make up a *record*. Together, all the records make up the database.

By using a database management system (DBMS), you can easily add, delete, change, reorganize, search for, or update information.

### Practicing the Skill

Read the following passage and follow the steps to build a database on urban growth in Texas in 1890.

*In 1890 Dallas had some 38,000 people; Fort Worth . . . a railhead village at the end of the Civil War, had boomed to 23,000. San Antonio was virtually the same size as Dallas; Galveston had grown to 29,000, Houston to 27,000. Austin held 14,000 residents, the same as Waco, a town halfway to Dallas that had blossomed in the wake of the cattle boom.*

—James Haley, *Texas: An Album of History*, 1985

City	Population
Austin	14,000
Galveston	29,000
Fort Worth	23,000
Houston	27,000
Dallas	38,000
San Antonio	38,000

Microsoft® Excel database

- 1 Determine what facts you want to include in your database. Research to collect that information.
- 2 Follow the instructions in the DBMS that you are using to set up the fields. Then enter each item of data in its assigned field.
- 3 Determine how you want to organize the facts in the database—chronologically by the date, alphabetically, or by some other category.
- 4 Follow the instructions in your computer program to enter and sort the information as you choose.
- 5 Evaluate whether all the information in your database is correct. If necessary, add, delete, or change information or fields.



## TAKS PRACTICE

**Using a Database** Research and build a database that organizes information in this chapter concerning the delegates to the Constitutional Convention of 1875. Explain why the database is organized the way it is and how it might be used in this class.

# SECTION 3

# Demands for Reform

## Guide to Reading

### Main Idea

Texans insisted that the state government regulate big business and railroads.

### Key Terms

trust, monopoly, free enterprise, antitrust law, interstate, intrastate

### Reading Strategy

**Organizing Information** As you read this section, create a chart like the one shown here. Fill in the accomplishments of each organization.

Organizations for Reform	Accomplishments
Grange	
Farmers' Alliance	
Interstate Commerce Commission	

### Read to Learn

- what actions of big business and railroads led to reforms.
- how the state government corrected the abuses of big business and railroad companies.

### Section Theme

**Economic Factors** Agriculture and industry expanded and faced reforms.

### Preview of Events

1888

Over 100,000 Texans are members of the Farmers' Alliance

1889

Texas legislature passes an antitrust law

1891

James Hogg is inaugurated governor of Texas



Late-19th-century bride

## A Texas Story

Ethel Anna Pearce's penmanship was so good that she got a high paying job one summer. "[The County Clerk] wanted to make a new copy of the Runnels County Tax Rolls . . . [s]o he came to the principal of Ballinger School and asked his help in finding a girl or boy who was a good spellar [sic] and wrote a plain hand. They chose me. It took 2 months to copy them by hand. I received \$25 for the job . . . I saved it nearly 2 years to buy my 'Wedding Dress.'"

—from the diary of Ethel Anna Pearce Hayley

### Monopolies Use Unfair Tactics

During the years approaching the twentieth century, many large companies began operations in Texas. These companies employed people such as Ethel Anna. The companies were helpful to the growth of the

# TWO VIEWPOINTS

## Farmers Ask for Government Support

By the late 1880s, many Texas farmers faced serious problems. The Farmers' Alliance wanted government to step in and help. Read the two views below, and then answer the questions.

### A Newspaper Editorial Is Favorable to the Farmers' Concerns

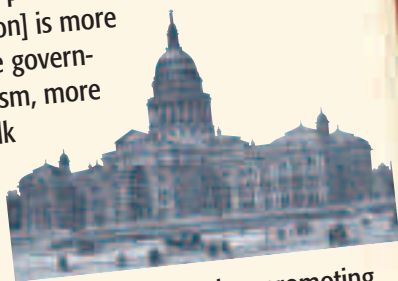


The only reason for establishing government is to utilize human effort to the advantage of the governed. It is the duty of every government, of, by, and for the people,

to provide for the constant and profitable employment of its people.  
—*Southern Mercury* (Dallas), December 24, 1886

### A Conservative Newspaper Opposes Government Involvement

The discontented classes are told, and are only too ready for the most part to believe, that the remedy [for economic recession] is more class legislation, more government, more paternalism, more State socialism. Its talk is too much about regulating . . . and too little about freeing capital and industry from all needless restraints and so promoting the development and diffusion of a high order of hardy manhood.



—*The Dallas News*, August 19, 1886

### Learning From History

1. What do you think farmers thought the role of government should be?
2. What do the writers of the *Dallas News* excerpt mean by "too much regulation"?

state because they provided valuable new services and products. As the companies became more powerful, however, problems arose.

Sometimes several companies formed arrangements known as **trusts**. A trust was usually powerful enough to prevent other companies from selling the same product or service. The trusts reduced and sometimes eliminated competition and free trade. Trusts were able to hold a **monopoly**, or exclusive control, of a business. This meant that trusts could pay low prices for the materials they bought and charge high prices for the goods they sold. Farmers, consumers, and some merchants could not protect themselves against such unfair practices.

## Farmers Become Trapped in Debt

Railroads were another source of discontent. Farmers and merchants often complained that the railroad companies were unfair. They claimed that railroads charged higher rates to some farmers and merchants who had no choice but to use the local railroad to get their products to market. On the other hand, large businesses that shipped their products to other states could choose from several competing railroads. Facing competition, the railroad companies charged these larger businesses lower rates. For example, it was cheaper to ship lumber from East Texas to Nebraska than from East Texas to Dallas.

Farmers also worried about the profits they received from their crops. The prices of cotton and other farm products generally went down between 1875 and 1900. During this period, farmers plowed more land and used more farm equipment. They borrowed money to buy the land and the equipment. Farmers found it hard to repay these debts. As they planted more cotton, they increased the

cotton supply, which soon exceeded the demand. This oversupply resulted in lower prices and less profit. Many farmers never got out of debt.

The rise of commercial farming in the lower Rio Grande Valley also resulted in the displacement of Mexican American ranchhands and landowners. Many became wage laborers on farms owned by others.



J.B. Rayner

**Reading Check** **Summarizing** Why did both farmers and merchants fear monopolies?

## Texans Call for Reforms

Some Texas farmers, particularly the poor ones, believed that state officials were too cautious and too timid to fight monopolies. They thought that the state was helping the trusts and the railroads and not the average Texan. Other individuals, however, argued that the **free enterprise** system allowed businesses to operate without government interference.

Farmers organized to gain support for dealing with their problems. An early organization of farmers was the Patrons of Husbandry, also called the **Grange**. The Grange was both a social organization and a group calling for economic changes. It set up stores throughout Texas where



### Picturing History

The Grange, the Farmers' Alliance, and the Populist Party gained members from New England to Texas. **What did these groups share in common?**

members could buy supplies at cheaper prices. It also pressured the state legislature to deal with unfair shipping rates charged by the railroads.

After the Grange declined in influence, many Texas farmers joined another organization, the **Farmers' Alliance**. By 1888, it had more than 100,000 members. They tried to eliminate the middleman's profits by negotiating sales directly with the cotton mills. Some Alliance members believed that government reforms were necessary. In August of 1891 they participated in the founding of a new political party in Dallas called the **Texas People's Party** (or the Populist Party). This party appeared in many states throughout the nation in the early 1890s. Most Texas populists were struggling farmers. African American farmers, many of whom also faced problems, sometimes joined the party ranks. One of the more talented leaders of the People's Party was **J.B. Rayner**. A former slave, Rayner was a successful writer, politician, public speaker, and educator.

Although the People's Party did not win control of the state government, some populist candidates were elected to important offices.

**A Shared Past...**

Many universities were founded between the years of 1876 and 1900, some by wealthy industrialists. Leland Stanford (Central Pacific Railroad) gave \$24 million to create Stanford University. John D. Rockefeller (Standard Oil) gave \$34 million to the University of Chicago and lesser amounts to Spelman and Morehouse Colleges in Atlanta. Vanderbilt and Tulane Universities, as well as many public universities, also began in this period. Texas A&M, Prairie View A&M, and the University of Texas all date from this important time in history.



Populist influence led other politicians to support the passage of laws that protected farmers and workers. Before 1900, however, the People's Party began to fade from Texas political affairs.

**Reading Check Explaining** What brought about the rise of the People's Party?

## New Law Prohibits Trusts

In 1889 the legislature responded to the public's concerns and passed an **antitrust law**. The antitrust law prohibited companies from joining together to fix prices or limit production. Although the law was later amended several times, it is still in effect. The antitrust law often has been used to prevent unfair practices. Some companies have been forced to stop doing business in Texas or have paid large fines because they violated this law.

## Governor Hogg Regulates the Railroads

The regulation of railroads was another important reform of the period. In 1887 the U.S. Congress created the **Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC)**. The ICC set rules for **interstate** railroads that connected two or more

states. An authority to control **intrastate** railroads was also needed. Intrastate shipments went from one part of the state to another.

Earlier, as state attorney general, **James S. Hogg** had helped Texas become only the second state in the country to pass an antitrust law. Hogg had realized that the important question in Texas at the time was how to control the growing power of corporations. After he became governor in 1891, Hogg asked the legislature to create a state agency to regulate railroads operating in Texas. In 1891 the legislature established the **Texas Railroad Commission**, which set the rates and watched over railroad practices. John H. Reagan was appointed by Hogg to head the commission. Reagan was well liked by both Texas citizens and railroad officials, both of whom considered him to be fair.

Within a few years, many of the railroads' unfair practices were stopped. Fixing prices, demanding more money for short than for long hauls, and charging unfair rates were practices that were watched closely by the commission. Since its creation, the Railroad Commission has

### **Picturing History**

*Western Railway Station, Frontier Days* by Oscar Edward Berninghaus, c. 1901 Railroad depots dotted the West Texas landscape in the late 1800s. **How does this painting emphasize the importance of the railroad to growing Texas pioneer towns?**





# People of Texas

James S. Hogg 1851-1906



James Stephen Hogg, born near Rusk in East Texas, was the first native-born Texas governor. He became an orphan at age 12, but he began working and managed to support himself. He continued his education, became a lawyer, and was admitted to the Texas State

Bar in 1875.

In 1891, after 15 years of public service, Hogg became governor of Texas. He was popular with the majority of citizens because he supported bills to increase funds for public schools, helped write the state's antitrust law protecting the public

from monopolies, and supported the establishment of the Railroad Commission.

Texas has honored him with Jim Hogg County in South Texas and two state historical parks, one of which includes a museum featuring items that belonged to him.

been given additional power over other industries in Texas. Today it is particularly important in the regulation of the oil industry.

In part because of his efforts in creating the Railroad Commission, James Hogg is remembered as one of the most important governors of Texas. At the same time, Hogg was a very popular governor. Reform-minded Texans championed Hogg because they realized that

he would not back down from a fight against big business. Small-town and rural Texans considered Hogg as "one of their own." He spoke of their hopes and dreams in language that they understood. His personality and reforms made him a favorite throughout the state.

**Reading Check Identifying** Why is James Hogg considered one of the most important governors of Texas?

## SECTION 3 ASSESSMENT

### Checking for Understanding

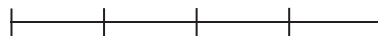
- Using Key Terms** Using at least four of the six terms (*trust, monopoly, free enterprise, antitrust law, interstate, intrastate*), write a paragraph about an 1870s business in Texas.
- Reviewing Facts** What was the purpose of a trust?

### Reviewing Themes

- Economic Factors** Why did the price of farm products generally decrease between 1875 and 1900?

### Organizing to Learn

- Sequencing** Create a time line like the one shown here. Place the letters of the following events in the proper order.



- Antitrust law was passed.
- Interstate Commerce Commission was established.
- Hogg became governor.
- Texas Railroad Commission was established.
- Farmers' Alliance had 100,000 members.

### Critical Thinking

- Analyzing Information** What are some ways that trusts affected farmers, consumers, and merchants?
- Understanding Supply and Demand** Why did Governor Hogg decide to establish the Texas Railroad Commission?



**Summarizing** How did organizations such as the Grange and the Farmers' Alliance help Texas farmers?

## Chapter Summary

### Politics & Progress



**1876**

- Texans adopt a new Constitution that creates a government with limited powers.



**1879**

- Governor Oran Roberts begins program to balance the budget.

**1887**

- ★ U.S. Congress creates the Interstate Commerce Commission to set rules for interstate railroads.

**1888**

- ★ A new capitol is dedicated in Austin.

- ★ The Farmers' Alliance has a membership of 100,000.

**1891**

- The Texas Railroad Commission is established to regulate the railroad business.

- The Texas People's Party is formed in Dallas.

**1893**

- ★ Suffragists in Dallas organize the Texas Equal Rights Association.

**1900**

- 10,000 miles of railroads spread across the state.
- Lumber is the most important and valuable industry in the state, providing wood for the construction of homes and buildings.

### Reviewing Key Terms

Number your paper from 1 to 5. Next to each number, write the letter of the definition of each boldfaced word.

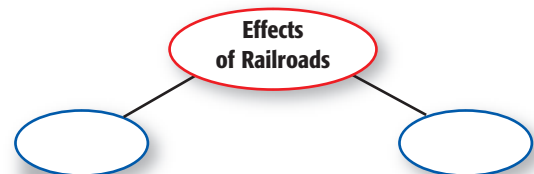
1. That company has had a **monopoly** over the production of oil in this area for many years.
2. The **vigilantes** captured the robber near the Red River.
3. The company offered a **pension** to any employee who had worked for them for 25 years.
4. Many women joined the **suffrage** movement to work for the right to vote.
5. That oil **refinery** has been operating safely in this area for nearly 10 years.
  - a. the right to vote
  - b. a wage paid to a person following his or her retirement
  - c. private citizens organized to punish criminals
  - d. exclusive control
  - e. a building equipped to refine or process products such as oil, metals, or sugar

### Reviewing Key Facts

6. How did the Constitution of 1876 change the government of Texas?
7. List the major accomplishments of the state government in the years following the end of Reconstruction.
8. What was the most common method of transportation in Texas before 1900?
9. Indicate why farmers and small merchants believed that the railroad companies were unfair.
10. Discuss the aims of the Grange.
11. Identify two major business reforms of the period.

### Critical Thinking

12. **Determining Cause and Effect** Draw a web like the one below to show the effects of the railroad on the economy of Texas.



13. **Analyzing Government Regulation** Why did government decide to regulate big business?
14. **Drawing Conclusions** What is the danger of vigilante committees? Do you think they are ever justified?



**Self-Check Quiz**

Visit the [texans.glencoe.com](http://texans.glencoe.com) Web site and click on **Chapter 19—Self-Check Quizzes** to prepare for the chapter test.

**CLICK HERE**



**Geography and History Activity**

15. Imagine that you work for the Texas Visitors Bureau in the late 1800s. You want to bring visitors to Texas. Make a colorful brochure that includes the following information:

- Recommended cities to visit
- Ways to travel from Houston to Dallas and from Galveston to Amarillo
- Information about the state capitol
- Advice about transportation in cities

**Cooperative Learning Activity**

16. **Debating Issues** Working in groups of three, organize a debate among candidates for governor in 1900. Select one student to represent the Democratic Party, another the Republican Party, and the third student to be a candidate for the Populists. Candidates should each prepare a statement expressing their views regarding the budget and reform, what they will do once elected, and why voters should support them.

**Practicing Skills**

17. **Using a Database** Create a database of your friends' and classmates' addresses, phone numbers, birthdays, and e-mail addresses using a table, an electronic database, or a special software program.



**Portfolio/TAKS Writing Activity**

18. **Writing a Paragraph** Write a one-paragraph summary about the advantages and disadvantages of the railroad coming to a small Texas town in the late 1800s. Save your work for your portfolio.



**Building Technology Skills**

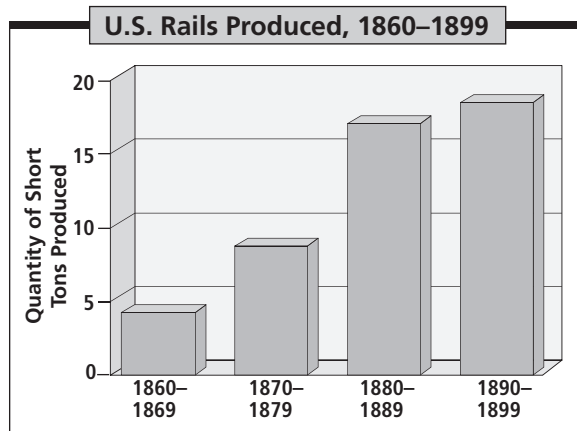
19. **Research on the Internet** Select one of the following topics about late-nineteenth-century Texas to research. Use the Internet and the library to find information. Choose from the following topics: Texas Equal Rights Association, the Populist Party, the 1875 Constitutional Convention, William "Gooseneck Bill" McDonald, coal mining, railroads in the late 1800s. Use at least two sources. Share your information in class. Determine which of your sources provides the best information.

**Economics and History Activity**

20. **Government Regulation** In the late 1800s, railroad companies often charged more for short hauls than for long hauls. Short hauls were goods that were transported only short distances, often within one state (intrastate). Long hauls were goods that were transported longer distances, usually in more than one state (interstate). Write a letter to Governor Hogg about the short-haul versus long-haul rates. Play the role of a Texas farmer or a railroad owner. Describe any economic effects that you have observed or experienced.



Use the graph to answer the following question.



Which decade showed the greatest increase in production of rail short tons since 1860?

- A 1860s
- B 1870s
- C 1880s
- D 1890s

**Test-Taking Tip:**

Look at the graph to estimate your answer and then confirm your answer by using the numbers on the vertical axis.

# THE STORY OF TEXAS

THE BOB BULLOCK  
Texas State  
History Museum



## Museum Tour 6

# Creating Opportunity Ranching

**I**n time, settlers established ranches throughout southern Texas. On the *ranchos*, Mexican cowhands called *vaqueros* (later buckaroos) adapted their equipment and methods to the particular challenges of ranching in Texas.



**Artifact** The signal cannon was used on ranches to call men to the house in case of bandit or Indian raids. It was loaded with black powder and lit at the touch hole. ▶



◀ **Texas Longhorns** Longhorns were a mix of Spanish stock and English cattle. Even though immune to diseases, they carried some cattle diseases to other breeds and thus were unpopular with ranchers outside Texas.

Visit The Bob Bullock Texas State History Museum in Austin to see artifacts and exhibits such as these about Texas history and heritage.



▲ **Artifact** Early *vaqueros* wore shoes of soft leather that could be fitted with spurs.



◀ **Working Saddle** Equipment was adapted to the Texas landscape. Long chaps, or panels, were added to this working saddle. Chaps covered the legs and protected the *vaquero* from thorny vegetation.

**Texas Cattle Drives** A typical drive to get cattle to railheads for eastern markets took about 4 months. To succeed, drivers had to have courage, patience, self-reliance, and great skill. This era lasted only 25 years, but created an enduring legend. ▼

▲ **Wind Power** Railroad companies built windmills to attract settlers and ranchers to where the railroad companies planned to lay track. Texas became the largest user of windmills in the U.S. The XIT Ranch alone had 335 windmills in operation in 1900.

