Name: _____ Mr. Ott

U.S. History Vocabulary Terms - Part 2

Ku Klux Klan	founded in the 1860s in the south; meant to control newly freed slaves through threats and violence; other targets: Catholics, Jews, immigrants and others thought to be un-American
transcontinental railroad	Completed in 1869, it linked the nation from the East Coast to California's railroad, revolutionizing transportation in the west
tenant farmers	farmer who works land owned by another and pays rent either in cash or crops
corporations	businesses that are owned by many investors who buy shares of stock
trusts	Firms or corporations that combine for the purpose of reducing competition and controlling prices (establishing a monopoly). There are anti-trust laws to prevent these monopolies.
monopoly	exclusive control of a product or service that makes it possible to control prices
robber barons	People who'd built fortunes by swindling investors and taxpayers, and bribing officials
Andrew Carnegie	American industrialist and philanthropist who founded the Carnegie Steel Company in 1892. By 1901, his company dominated the American steel industry.
John D. Rockefeller	had a monopoly with his company Standard Oil. He destroyed competition which was both ruthless and brilliant.
laissez-faire	policy based on the idea that government should play as small a role as possible in the economy
collective bargaining	union representing a group of workers negotiates with management for a contract
Sherman Anti-trust Act	an 1890 law that banned the formation of trusts and monopolies in the United States
assembly line	In a factory, an arrangement where a product is moved from worker to worker, with each person performing a single task in the making of the product.
labor union	an organization of workers to improve working conditions, wages, and benefits for its members
social darwinism	The belief that the rich succeed because they are superior to the poor.
Homestead Strike	one of the most serious strikes in US history at Carnegie steel company, the violence made people oppose unions
political machine	well organized organization that controls election results by awarding jobs and other favors in exchange for votes
Dawes Act	Law aimed at "Americanizing" assimilating the Indian
suffrage	the right to vote
nativism	a policy of favoring native-born Americans over immigrants