

# HIGHLIGHTS

of the Period

## *Ideas to Ponder*

After reviewing the chapter's summary, highlights, and your primary text, discuss the following with members of your study group.

- 1 How did the frontier act as a "safety valve" for Americans after the Civil War?
- 2 How did farms begin to resemble factories in the 1880s and 1890s?
- 3 How did the Grange lead the way in changing the government's role in American society?
- 4 How did the battle over currency standards define politics after the Civil War?
- 5 How did the Populist Party reflect deep dissatisfaction among many Americans with their government?
- 6 How did American Indian policy from 1865 to 1890 complete a "century of dishonor" toward Native Americans?
- 7 What real differences were there between Democrats and Republicans from 1868 to 1892?
- 8 Why was "waving the Bloody Shirt" so effective for Republicans after the Civil War?
- 9 How were trusts a blessing and a curse for America?
- 10 Did the Gospel of Wealth remove the label of "robber barons" from the industrialists? Explain why or why not.
- 11 Why were the railroads the first industry to face government regulation?
- 12 How did the Depression of 1893 reveal major flaws in governmental policies during an economic crisis?
- 13 How was the nativism of the 1890s a continuation of past attitudes in America?
- 14 What factors contributed to the "betrayal of blacks" from 1877 to 1900?
- 15 How did *Plessy v. Ferguson* validate and perpetuate the Jim Crow system?
- 16 How was the election of 1896 a turning point in American politics?