

# Labor Unions

# Quick Test Review

- ▶ Things Done Well
- ▶ Things to Work On
- ▶ When to Retake

# What is “Progressivism”

- ▶ Progress- the advancement of science, technology, economic development, and social organization
- ▶ Progressivism- the term applied to a variety of responses to the economic and social problems rapid industrialization introduced to America.
  - ▶ Began as a social movement, but spread to other parts of life (eg. Politics)
  - ▶ Progressives did not believe in Social Darwinism

# Solving Problems: Working Conditions

- ▶ Labor Unions- an organized association of workers formed to protect and further their rights and interests.
- ▶ Strikes- One method that unions use to try to get what they want. Members of the union agree not to work until their demands are met.
- ▶ Collective bargaining- the ability for laborers to work together to ensure their interests; “Strength in numbers”

# The Rise of Labor Unions

- ▶ 3 Major Unions
  - ▶ Knights of Labor
  - ▶ American Federation of Labor
  - ▶ Industrial Workers of the World
- ▶ On pages 58-62 of the Red Book, read the charters of your union, and fill out the table on your note sheet.
  - ▶ Look for the major goals of each union and what they each stood for

# Important Leaders

- ▶ Samuel Gompers
  - ▶ Founded the American Federation of Labor, which brought different craft unions together.
  - ▶ Pushed the idea of collective bargaining
- ▶ Eugene V Debs
  - ▶ Founding member of the Industrial Workers of the World
  - ▶ Led the Pullman Strike
- ▶ Mary Harris “Mother” Jones
  - ▶ In 1902 she was called "the most dangerous woman in America" for her success in organizing mine workers and their families against the mine owners

# Primary Source Activity 1

- ▶ You may work in groups of up to three. You all must work on the same document together, but you may split up who is looking for what information from the article.
- ▶ In the Red Book, use pages 70-71 to answer question 1 and 1a in your note sheet.
- ▶ Use pages 63-69 for question 2-2d

# Collective Bargaining Activity

- ▶ For this activity, you will be assigned to either a group of workers, or a smaller group of owners. The workers are upset because of their long hours, low wages, and poor working conditions. The owners are trying to keep making money, but that will be impossible if all the workers go on strike.
- ▶ In this activity, the workers have to come to an agreement with the shop owners over the new conditions they are demanding. Both parties must agree and a contract must be signed.
- ▶ New wage/New hours/Working condition improvements?