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**History 1302**  
**U.S. From 1877**

Chapter 18

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Urbanization of America

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# The City :

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- Built-up area -Late 19<sup>th</sup> Century the government defined it as a community of 2500 or more
- Construction, Conflict, Commerce, Concentration, Contradiction, Opportunity, Excitement, Freedom, Finance, & Industry
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- Rural movement back after economic failure
- Women for opportunity
- Black migration to northern cities
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- China
- Europe –after 1880, from South and East
  - NYC more Irish than Dublin
- Immigrant movement west
  - Moneyed went for farmland
  - Asset-less for industrial / mining jobs
- By 1920 majority of US would live in cities

## The City (page 2):

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- - - Bonds to homeland / language / culture
    - Were mostly rural & illiterate
    - Clustered both in neighborhood and city
  - - Formal and informal self-help, self-protection groups
    - Geographic concentration
  - - Dominant society
      - Success – money, skill, function
      - Institutionally forced through schools & citizenship process
    - Groups closest to success model prospered
      - Germans / Jews
    - - Color, religion and customs became barriers
    - Second-generation Americans – desire for the dominant culture.
      - Education
      - Employment
    - Organized reaction – 1887 American Protective Society – legislative limits on who can enter.

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- - Concentration of people finding some economic / social advantage over the surrounding area.
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    - Technological innovations become necessities for urban life – become “utilities”
    - Public spaces mandated by population growth, social expectations and technology
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      - Public Safety & Health
      - Utilities
      - Entertainment / Sports / Leisure
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      - Growth / Congestion / Solution
    - Modern city requires planning – form and function
      - Human efforts to reduce problems
      - Promote “progress” & quality of life – “Order and Symmetry” from Chaos
      - Alliance of new urban interests:
        - Politicians to provide public will to act
        - Engineers to configure technology / design functional capabilities
        - Economic Interests to motivate action and provide economic benefits for action

## The City (page 3):

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- - 
  - - Economic status
    - Employment & education
    - Ethnic / Religious
    - Proximity and environment
  - - Apartments starting in 1871 “French flats”
    - Building technology – steel frames 1889 & Elevators in 1890
    - Tenements by 1876
  - - Elevated RR (78)
    - Cable Cars (80) Electric Trolley (88)
    - Asphalt 1898
    - Subways (97)
    - Automobile (05)
  - Except for land, construction cheap
    - Eminent Domain developed to quicken progress

# The City (page 4):

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    - Decrease in Animal use
    - Water-works - 600 in 1878 / 3600 by 1898
    - Sewage Systems – almost all cities by 1910
    - Public Health Board 1868 in NYC
      - Sewer design by 1875
    - Canned food 1880s / Refrigerated shipping
  - - Deserving Poor - Salvation Army 1879
    - Poverty equals crime & alcohol
      - 185 cities had semi-legal prostitution
      - Milwaukee 1 bar for every 50 people
    - Urban Police Forces grew
- Political apparatus – public functions, public funds, public welfare (?)
  - Political Machines – In office, stay in office
    - Money and power in return for order, safety and support
    - NYC Tammany Hall 1860s – 70s – Boss Tweed
    - “Piece of the Action”

## Centers of mass consumption:

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- Concentration of commerce, industry, development produces consumer goods
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  - - Household technology
    - Personal clothing / items
    - Telephones / Automobiles
    - Luxuries –Artificial ice available in Chicago in 1876
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  - - National Consumers League 1890s
    - Domestic Science becomes taught in High Schools in 1880s
- Ready-made clothing
  - Expansion of style – “personal” ( by class by gender?)
- Buying concentration & experience
  - “Marketing”
  - Installment plan from 1876
  - Chain Stores & Department Stores (Marshall Field)
  - F.W. Woolworth – “5¢ & 10¢” stores
  - Sears and Roebuck bringing urban to rural through Postal Money Order development
  - Grocery – A&P 1870s replacing individual carts and vendors

# Middle-Class, Urban Lifestyle:

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- - - High rate of change
    - Homes to be comfortable, efficient, healthful and democratic (without servants)
  - - Women's clubs
    - School Board Suffrage – (1898 all but Confederacy)
    - Marriage age 17 (Men is 23)
    - Female originated divorce grows 100% 1878 – 1898
    - Birth Control – ave. family 1890 4 children / 1900 - 3
  - - Synthetic foods – “Oleo” margarine
    - Mixes” / commercial canning
    - Cookbooks become popular
  - - Decrease in corporal punishment
    - Manners Slump / “Faster” or Looser Society
    - Summer Camps from 1881
  - - Specialty schools – cooking 1874
    - High Schools 1878 – 500 by 1898 – 5,500
    - Newspapers – Daily 1878 – 500 by 1900 – 2,226
    - Johns Hopkins University establishes European level Graduate School 1876

## The culture of urban leisure:

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- - Urban middle class has paid vacations by 1900
  - Working hours : 70 in 1860 to 60 in 1900
  - Positive versus sign of sin or sloth
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- - Gender differentiation
  - Baseball – Cincinnati 1869 / National League 1876
  - Football 1870s considered “high brow” from college
  - Basketball – urban 1891 Springfield MA YMCA
  - Olympic Sport – 9 of 14 gold Track & Field in 1896
  - Vaudeville / Popular Music
  - Movies from 1880s
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  - Amusement parks – “Luna Park” Coney Island
  - Publishing expansion
    - Cheaper books
    - Dime novels
    - Magazines
    - Newspapers (1870 – 1910 expanded 9X)
      - Telegraph / Telephone
      - News services
      - Sports and leisure boosters

# Cultural Changes:

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- - 
  - Impact on religion – not God’s plan but scientific and luck factors
  - Splits religion on amount of science & interpretation
    - Liberal (urban) Protestant faiths versus
    - Fundamentalist (rural) Protestant faiths
- - Sociology practicality of using science to address human problems
  - Lester Frank Ward – Humans achieve progress through the collective use of intelligence.
  - Literary and Social “Naturalism” was pitted against traditional religious thought and morality
- - Public supported by Tax and Morrill Act 1862
  - Private expands through private endowment
  - Increasingly specialized
    - Ethnic / Gender
    - Technical
    - Medical
      - Laboratory testing
      - Aspirin in 1899
      - Transfusions in surgery 1906