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

Chapter 20

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The Imperial Republic

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# American expansion threatened

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- The “old” American Era was ending -
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  - United States was special – God Given Mission
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  - - Accelerating immigration
    - Highest steel production in world (30% > Germany)
    - 30% of world’s RR
    - Most literate and expanding
- World Completion – Loss of oceanic barriers
  - Pressure for raw materials / fresh markets
    - Population pressure from lowest death rate in world
    - Depression of 1893 – due to international issues
      - Decisive area of American economy – 70% of cotton, 40% of wheat, 15% of Steel, etc.
      - Seen as growth area for growing American economy
      - 1870 was \$393M in 1900 was \$1.4B
    - Important elements of economy dependent on foreign markets
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    - European competition for colonies will restrict America’s future
    - “Anglo Saxon” dominance already a “fact” – but we were not participants

# American Imperialism:

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- Concern for America’s place in the world
  - Alfred Thayer Mahan – The Influence of Sea Power upon History – 1890
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  - - Blaine SoS 1880s – Latin America
    - 1895 Cleveland defends Venezuela v GB
    - 1889 Pan American Congress – US trade primacy
- Republican V Democrat
  - Republicans – Lodge & Roosevelt -see external expansion as a cure for present ailments
  - Democrats – Bryan an Shurz – see empires as more problems than they are worth – used traditional American themes to keep us distant
- Hawaii
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  - 1840s American dominance of economy and politics
  - 1875 Hawaiian Sugar duty free
  - 1887 Naval base at Pearl Harbor
  - 1890 Sugar act repeals
  - 1893 American Hawaiians rebelled and asked US for protection
  - 1898 Hawaii brought into US as a Territory

# War for Empire:

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- Samoa
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  - 1899 Formal acquisition and division between Britain and Germany
  
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  - Complementary resources & markets
  - Geography based security issues
  
- - Revolt and antagonism between Cuba / Spain 1868
  - 1895 Serious Revolt
    - Significant sugar money / Tariff of 1894
    - General Valeriano Weyler – Concentration Camps
    - Joseph Marti led insurrection and declares independence
    - Émigré population in US - Cuba Libre
    - Popular “Yellow” press Hearst / Pulitzer circulation war
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    - 1896 Republican platform called for “Free Cuba”
  - McKinley, president in 1897, protested to Spain on treatment of Cubans – Weyler recalled
  - Loma letter - February 1898
  - Maine battleship in Havana Harbor – March 1898
  - Popular American pressure against Gov’t realism
  - McKinley offers to mediate “peace” and independence – Spain refused

# Spanish American War:

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- “Splendid Little War” – begins in April and over by August.
  - - Army 28K men – few modern weapons or weapons systems
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  - Naval preparedness
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    - Orders to Havana Blockade
    - Orders to Commodore Dewey for Manila Bay – took Philippines starting on May 1<sup>st</sup> 1998 after 3-way issues
  - Cuban Campaign:
    - Santiago Bay
      - Naval battle & blockade
      - Military – Kettle / San Juan Hill
    - Bravery and aggressive action
    - Logistical nightmare
    - Puerto Rico simply taken in July 1898 – simply landing a force
    - Victory in July 1898
  - Philippines
    - Local population was anti-Spain – declared independence in April
    - US took over civilize and Christianize & began insurrection (or war of liberation) v Aguinaldo

# The Problems of Empire:

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- Debate over the Philippines
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  - McKinley – didn't want it to go back to Spain but thought Philippines not ready for independence – mercy of the worse nations of Europe
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  - William Jennings Bryan wanted the treaty to be part of the debate against Republicans in 1900 election
  - Treaty of Paris 1898 – paid 20 million to Spain for islands
  - Election in 1900 showed intense popularity of Empire & Colonies
  
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  - Hawaii, Puerto Rico, Alaska – self governed as Territories & became US Citizens
  - Navy ruled Guam and Tutuila
  - Cuba - War was for their “liberty” & independence
    - Leonard Wood stayed till 1902 “prepare island for independence.” Public works and improvements
    - Platt Amendment 1901
      - Cuba can't make treaties
      - US can intervene to solve internal problems
      - US military on Cuban soil

# The Problems of Empire (cont) :

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- Philippine Insurrection
  - War against native nationalists 1898 – 1902
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  - Increasingly brutal Arthur MacArthur weapons & tactics
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  - Emilio Aguinaldo after being captured in 1901 “came over”
  - 1901 Civilian control under William H. Taft provided public works & local autonomy
  - First Filipino legislature 1907 / all legislative power by 1916
- China and Open Door 1898:
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  - September McKinley / Hayes use “Open Door “ note to block European exclusion of US trade
  - Boxer Rebellion – ended Chinese public support across Europe & America
- Elihu Root , Sec of War in 1900
  - Military reform and expansion – though smaller a European professional army / Staff Colleges, etc.
  - Army / Navy Board to facilitate joint operations
  - Fed. Standards for National Guard