

REGENTS REVIEW # 4 – BUSINESS AND GOVERNMENT REFORM, 1865-1940

1 During the late 1800s, many United States farmers believed their economic problems would be solved if the federal government would

- (1) raise interest rates
- (2) outlaw strikes by labor unions
- (3) put more money into circulation
- (4) regulate the amount of grain that was produced

2 In the late 19th century, critics of big business claimed that monopolies most harmed the economy by

- (1) limiting competition
- (2) decreasing the urban growth rate
- (3) preventing technological innovation
- (4) failing to keep pace with European industries

3 In the late 19th century, the ideas of Social Darwinism were used primarily to

- (1) encourage the passage of compulsory education laws
- (2) explain the differences in income between the rich and the poor
- (3) urge Congress to end immigration
- (4) support the growth of new political parties

4 The principal reason Congress raised tariff rates in the late 1800s and early 1900s was to

- (1) increase personal income taxes
- (2) lower prices for American consumers
- (3) guarantee high wages to American workers
- (4) protect United States businesses from foreign competition

4 Reformers of the early 20th century frequently attacked political machines because the politicians in these organizations often

- (1) denied voting rights to the poor
- (2) accepted bribes in return for favors
- (3) wasted money on military spending
- (4) discriminated against migrant workers

5 A major purpose of the Progressive movement (1900–1917) was to

- (1) stimulate the economy
- (2) support government control of factory production
- (3) encourage immigration from southern and eastern Europe
- (4) correct the economic and social abuses of industrial society

6 Today, the Federal Reserve System attempts to stabilize the economy of the United States by

- (1) requiring federal budgets be prepared and presented to Congress
- (2) levying and collecting income taxes
- (3) regulating interest rates and the money supply
- (4) backing all currency with silver and gold

7 During the late 1800s, pools and trusts were used by big business in an effort to

- (1) increase imports
- (2) limit competition
- (3) improve working conditions
- (4) reduce corporate income taxes

8 In the late 1800s, which group most often supported the views of the Populist Party?

- (1) factory owners
- (2) nativists
- (3) farmers
- (4) labor unions

9 . . . “You are our employers, but you are not our masters. Under the system of government we have in the United States we are your equals, and we contribute as much, if not more, to the success of industry than do the employers.” . . .
— testimony, United States Congress, April 29, 1911

The point of view expressed in the quotation was most likely that of a

- (1) recent immigrant responding to discrimination
- (2) government official campaigning for reelection
- (3) woman demanding the right of suffrage
- (4) labor leader speaking about the rights of workers

10 In the late 1800s and early 1900s, many members of Congress supported legislation requiring literacy tests for immigrants in an attempt to

- (1) stop illegal immigration from Latin America
- (2) provide highly skilled workers for industry
- (3) limit the power of urban political machines
- (4) restrict immigration from southern and eastern Europe

11 **“Hawaiian Planters Urge American Annexation”**

“U.S. and Germany Negotiate for Control of the

Samoan Islands”

“U.S. Gains Control of Wake Island and Guam”

Which conclusion can best be drawn from these headlines?

- (1) The Anti-Imperialist League strongly influenced Congress.
- (2) Respect for native cultures motivated United States foreign policy.
- (3) United States territorial expansion increased in the Pacific Ocean.
- (4) Construction of a railroad to Alaska was a major policy goal.

12 The Federal Reserve System was created in 1913 to

- (1) protect endangered species
- (2) reduce tariff rates
- (3) collect income taxes
- (4) regulate the nation's money supply

13 The initiative and referendum are considered democratic reforms because they

- (1) permit citizens to have a more direct role in lawmaking
- (2) let all registered voters select their state's presidential electors
- (3) extend the right to vote to 18-year-old citizens
- (4) allow residents of one state to bring lawsuits against residents of another state

14 During the early 1900s, the term *muckrakers* was used to describe

- (1) pacifists who demonstrated against war
- (2) writers who exposed the evils in American society
- (3) newspaper columnists who reported on celebrities
- (4) politicians who criticized Progressive Era presidents

15 President Woodrow Wilson's policy of strict neutrality during the early years of World War I was challenged by

- (1) German violations of freedom of the seas
- (2) British disrespect for the Roosevelt corollary
- (3) attacks by Mexicans on United States border towns
- (4) the refusal of the League of Nations to supply peacekeepers

16 What was a main result of national Prohibition during the 1920s?

- (1) Respect for the law decreased.
- (2) Woman's suffrage was restricted.
- (3) Racial prejudice increased.
- (4) Religious tolerance grew.

17 Which foreign policy did Warren G. Harding support when he used the phrase "return to normalcy" during his presidential campaign of 1920?

- (1) appeasement (3) containment
- (2) internationalism (4) isolationism

18 Which event led to the start of the Great Depression?

- (1) Red Scare (1919–1920)
- (2) election of President Herbert Hoover (1928)
- (3) stock market crash (1929)
- (4) passage of the Emergency Banking Act (1933)

Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?

They used to tell me I was building a dream
And so I followed the mob.

When there was earth to plow or guns to bear,
I was always there, right on the job.

They used to tell me I was building a dream
With peace and glory ahead —

Why should I be standing in line, just waiting
for bread?

Once I built a railroad, I made it run,
Made it race against time.

Once I built a railroad, now it's done —
Brother, can you spare a dime? . . .

Once in khaki suits, gee, we looked swell
Full of that Yankee Doodle-de-dum.

Half a million boots went slogging through hell,
And I was the kid with the drum. . . .

— E. Y. Harburg and J. Gorney, 1932

19 Which statement most accurately expresses the main idea of this song?

- (1) Railroad workers were often overpaid.
- (2) The average wage in 1930 was 10 cents an hour.
- (3) Soldiers never have difficulty finding jobs when they return from war.
- (4) Hard times threaten economic opportunity.

20 Which program was created to deal with the problem identified in this song?

- (1) Interstate Commerce Commission (ICC)
- (2) Works Progress Administration (WPA)
- (3) Federal Trade Commission (FTC)
- (4) Federal Deposit

21 During the late 1800s, the defenders of Social Darwinism would most likely have supported

- (1) labor unions
- (2) progressive income taxes
- (3) laissez-faire capitalism
- (4) environmental conservation

Base your answers to questions 22 and 23 on the passage below and on your knowledge of social studies.

“ . . . This, then, is held to be the duty of the man of Wealth: First, to set an example of modest, unostentatious living, shunning display or extravagance; to provide moderately for the legitimate wants of those dependent upon him; and after doing so to consider all surplus revenues which come to him simply as trust funds, which he is called upon to administer, and strictly bound as a matter of duty to administer in the manner which, in his judgment, is best calculated to produce the most beneficial results for the community— . . . ”

— Andrew Carnegie, “Wealth,” *North American Review*, June 1889

22 According to this passage, the responsibility of the wealthy is to

- (1) invest in future industry to increase wealth
- (2) share their excess wealth with the community
- (3) maintain a lifestyle consistent with their wealth
- (4) influence government to assist all people

23 Andrew Carnegie carried out the ideas expressed in this statement by

- (1) funding numerous libraries and educational institutions
- (2) serving many years in the federal government
- (3) investing his fortune in several new industries
- (4) promoting programs to benefit the wealthy

24 The Interstate Commerce Act and the Sherman Antitrust Act were attempts by Congress to

- (1) regulate the activities of big business
- (2) protect consumers against unsafe products
- (3) impose government regulations on agricultural production
- (4) bring transportation activities under government Ownership

25 Which factor contributed most to the growth of nativist attitudes in the United States in the years immediately following World War I?

- (1) the establishment of national Prohibition

(2) a decline of organized religions

(3) the increase in the number of settlement houses

(4) the large numbers of immigrants from southern and eastern Europe

26 What was a principle reason for rapid economic growth in the United States during the 1920s?

(1) prosperity of American agriculture

(2) increase of American imports

(3) development of many new consumer goods

(4) increased spending on defense

27 What was one factor that led to the Great Depression?

(1) government limitations on the amount of money in circulation

(2) high wages paid by employers

(3) increases in the tax rate for corporations

(4) excessive speculation in the stock market

28 Much of the domestic legislation of the New Deal period was based on the idea that the federal government should

(1) favor big business over labor and farming

(2) assume some responsibility for the welfare of people

(3) own and operate the major industries of the country

(4) require local communities to be responsible for social welfare programs