

CHAPTER 24

Texas in the Age of Reform

(1870–1920)



Students at the University of Texas participated in many activities and sports, including rowing.



Texas A&M University students were required to join the Corps of Cadets.



1876 Texas A&M University opens as an all-male military institution.

1883 The University of Texas formally opens.

1889 The Texas legislature passes the Antitrust Act of 1889.

1892 A leading association of farmers endorses the Populist Party.

1870

1876

1882

1888

1894

U.S. and WORLD



1881 The Knights of Labor, the first union to allow female members, establishes a local women's chapter in Philadelphia.

1886 A riot erupts in Chicago's Haymarket Square during a nationwide strike by unions.

1891 More than 1,400 delegates from 33 states and territories gather in Cincinnati to form the Populist Party.



Female members of the Knights of Labor attended the organization's 1886 convention as delegates.

Build on What You Know

The Texas oil boom led to rapid growth of oil-related industries, and soon big business prospered. Texans on farms and in the cities demanded that their government ensure fair treatment from big business. Across Texas, reformers took up the call for change.



The 1900 Galveston hurricane flooded the city and destroyed many of the downtown buildings.



The prohibition of alcohol was an increasingly popular idea in Texas.

1900 A hurricane hits Galveston, killing some 6,000 to 8,000 people.

1911 Jovita Idar becomes the first president of the League of Mexican Women.

1918 Texas ratifies the Eighteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which bans the sale or manufacture of alcohol.

1900

1906

1912

1918

1901 New Zealand passes a third Factory Act designed to protect the rights of workers.

1909 The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is founded.



1920 The Nineteenth Amendment is adopted, granting women the right to vote.

The NAACP led efforts to stop the lynching of African Americans.

If you were there ...
What social problem would you work to solve?

You Be the Historian

Themes Journal



What's Your Opinion? Do you **agree** or **disagree** with the following statements? Support your point of view in your journal.

- **Economics** Free enterprise is harmed by government regulations.
- **Government** People are rarely able to bring about changes in government to correct social or economic problems.
- **Citizenship** People must work in groups to bring about social change.



Farmers and Reform

Read to Discover

1. How were Texas farmers caught in a boom-and-bust cycle?
2. What were the goals of the Grange and the Southern Farmers' Alliance?
3. Why was the People's Party formed?

Why It Matters Today

During the late 1800s Texas farmers joined organizations to push for reforms. Use CNNfyi.com or other **current events** sources to find information about an organization seeking reforms today. Record your findings in your journal.

Define

- cooperative stores
- pooling
- platform

Identify

- Grange
- Southern Farmers' Alliance
- Populist Party
- Populists
- John Rayner



Texas farmers often fell into debt when crop failures left them unable to pay off loans for supplies.

The Story Continues

Farmers in Lampasas County were angry and worried. Crop prices remained low. Year in, year out the only thing that seemed to grow was their debt. They gathered in 1877 at J. R. Allen's farm to come up with a plan of action. The farmers wanted to discuss how to fight the wealthy few they thought controlled their economic well-being.

★ Farmers Demand Reform

Many farmers in Texas and other parts of the United States faced serious hardships. The movement of farmers and railroads into the Plains sparked a boom in farm production in the late 1800s. But the supply of crops outpaced the demand. This, combined with problems in the national economy, caused prices to fall. Cotton farmers were particularly vulnerable to the changing national market. In the 1880s, cotton was selling for less than 10 cents a pound. On most farms, it cost 8 cents a pound just to produce the cotton. One rural man noted the difficulties farmers faced.

Texas Voices

“We were told . . . to go to work and raise a big crop, that was all we needed. We went to work and plowed and planted; the rains fell, the sun shone, nature smiled, and we

raised the big crop that they told us to; and what came of it? Eight cent corn, ten cent oats, two cent beef and no price at all for butter and eggs—that's what came of it. Then the politicians said that we suffered from over-production.”

—Anonymous farmer, quoted in *The Populist Revolt*, by John D. Hicks

Farmers also faced foreign competition, high interest rates, and droughts. When they tried to overcome these obstacles by growing more crops, the result was further overproduction. Prices fell still more. This cycle, which had troubled farmers for many years, became particularly severe in the 1870s. Even as they earned less, farmers had to pay more for many of the goods and services they needed to operate. Some farmers borrowed money from merchants based on what they expected to earn from their crops. Then they had to pay the money back with interest. One observer said that merchants charged rates ranging “from 25 percent to grand larceny [great theft].” When crop prices continued to drop, farmers struggled to make ends meet.

★ Reading Check Summarizing What challenges did Texas farmers face?



★ The Grange

As farmers' problems mounted, many joined together to work on solutions. In the late 1860s farmers had established the Patrons of Husbandry—commonly called the **Grange**. It promoted cooperation and social activities among farmers as well as schooling for rural families. Wherever Grange leaders went, they encouraged farmers to join. Farmers typically wanted to know what financial benefits they might gain from joining the Grange. The Grange responded by opening **cooperative stores**—businesses owned by and operated for the benefit of the organization's members. The Grange purchased goods such as seeds, fertilizers, and clothing in large amounts. This lowered individuals' costs for buying such items, and the savings were then passed on to the members.

The Grange also focused on railroad rates. The expansion of rail lines had allowed farmers to move farther west and ship goods across great distances to national markets. However, the railroads charged more and more for their services. The Grange tried to end the railroads' policy of charging more for short hauls than for longer ones. That is, it might cost more to ship cotton from Austin to Waco than from Austin to New



Getting Involved in Government

Many Texans in the late 1800s tried to reform society. They demanded that government take an active role in improving their lives. Texans still work with government to meet today's challenges. Voting, organizing into political groups, and meeting with government officials are just a few ways people can try to change society. Teenagers can get involved by learning about the government of Texas. **What can Texans do to get involved in the state's government?**

The Grange supported farmers by forming cooperatives, opening schools, and offering other aid.



Orleans. This was a problem for small farmers who shipped goods only within the state. Railroads claimed that long hauls were more profitable, so they set rates to encourage this type of business. The lack of competition allowed railroads to charge high rates for local hauls. Because of pressure from the Grange, the state passed several laws to regulate, or control, railroads. In 1879 the legislature set maximum freight charges, and in 1882 it reduced fares for passengers using railroads in Texas. Legislation required railroads to charge the same rates for the same services. These laws proved hard to enforce because Texas had no government agency to regulate the railroad companies.

★ Reading Check Identifying Cause and Effect Why did Texas pass legislation regulating railroads, and what was the result?

Interpreting the Visual Record

The Grange. Members of the Grange met regularly to discuss issues, sing songs, and listen to speakers. What aspects of the daily life of Grange members are portrayed in this poster? ★ TEKS



★ The Southern Farmers' Alliance

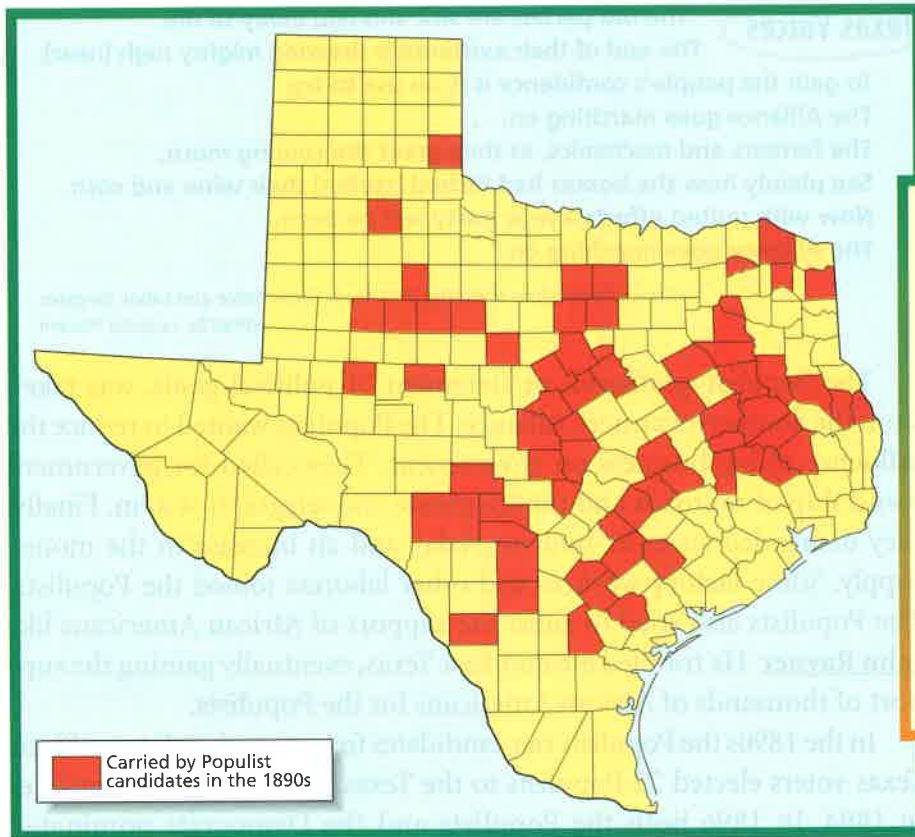
In 1877 former Grange members and other farmers in Texas formed the National Farmers' Alliance and Industrial Union, or **Southern Farmers' Alliance**. This organization was more politically active than the Grange. The Southern Farmers' Alliance spread to other states, eventually claiming about 3 million members nationwide. The Alliance took some ideas from the Grange, such as forming trade agreements with merchants and setting up cooperative stores. However, merchants who did not participate in the Alliance system were often hostile to it. These retailers often dropped their prices to compete with the Alliance cooperatives. The

Alliance stores also struggled because they sold goods for cash rather than for credit. Farmers who were heavily in debt had little cash on hand.

The Alliance also tried to help farmers market their goods more effectively. Through the Farmers' Alliance Exchange of Texas, members could sell their crops at one location and bypass costly middlemen. The Exchange struggled financially, however, and ended within just two years.

Like the Grange, the Alliance wanted railroads to be regulated. It called for a law governing interstate trade to regulate companies operating between different states. Alliance members also wanted to prevent railroad companies from **pooling**—combining efforts to prevent competition between companies. In addition, the Alliance objected to the state's practice of granting land to railroad companies that in turn sold the land to settlers for high prices.

In 1889 Texan Charles W. Macune, the president of the Southern Farmers' Alliance, laid out a



Populism in Texas, 1890s

Interpreting Maps Populist candidates won the support of many Texas farmers and ranchers by pushing for the regulation of transportation and other issues.

TAKS Skills

- 1. Places and Regions** In which regions of Texas were Populists most successful? ★ TEKS
- 2. Evaluating** What positions in the Populist platform might have appealed to those counties' residents? ★ TEKS

bold plan to help farmers. He believed that crop prices would rise and that the farmers' situation would improve if the government put more currency into circulation. Macune and an Alliance committee proposed that farmers deposit and store their crops in U.S. government warehouses until prices increased. The government would give low-interest loans based on the value of the crops deposited. Farmers could repay the loans later after selling their crops at higher prices. This subtreasury plan, which would be financed by newly printed currency, had much support within the Alliance. The subtreasury plan gave farmers hope that they would soon receive help.

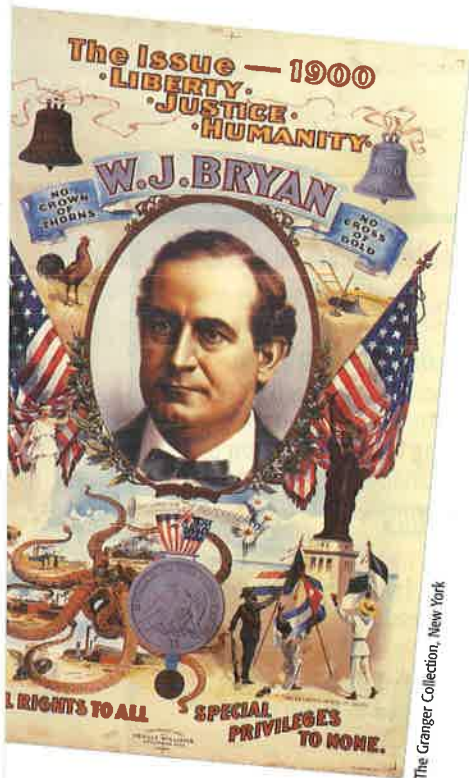
★ **Reading Check Analyzing Information** What action did the Southern Farmers' Alliance want the government to take to help farmers?

★ The Populists

The Democratic Party refused to support the subtreasury plan. Southern farmers had traditionally voted for Democratic Party candidates. However, the Democrats' failure to back the plan prompted Alliance members to help form the People's Party—commonly called the **Populist Party**—in 1891. Its members were known as **Populists**. An Alliance song boldly predicted the successes that lay ahead for the new party.



Some William Jennings Bryan supporters wore mechanical bumblebee badges during the 1896 presidential campaign.



Despite his loss in 1896, William Jennings Bryan ran for president again in 1900, pushing for many of the same reforms he had in the previous election.

Texas Voices

"The old parties are sick and laid away to die
The end of their existence is drawing mighty nigh [near];

To gain the people's confidence it is no use to try,
The Alliance goes marching on. . . .
The farmers and mechanics, as they greet the coming morn,
See plainly how the bosses had filched [stolen] their wine and corn.
Now with united efforts a new party will be born.
The Alliance goes marching on."

—"The Alliance Goes Marching On," from *The Alliance and Labor Songster*,
edited by Leopold Vincent

The Populist **platform**, or statement of political goals, was taken from the Southern Farmers' Alliance. The Populists wanted to reduce the influence of big business on government. They called for government ownership of railroads and the telephone and telegraph system. Finally, they demanded an eight-hour workday and an increase in the money supply. Some factory workers and other laborers joined the Populists. The Populists also tried to enlist the support of African Americans like **John Rayner**. He traveled around East Texas, eventually gaining the support of thousands of African Americans for the Populists.

In the 1890s the Populists ran candidates for national and state offices. Texas voters elected 22 Populists to the Texas House of Representatives in 1894. In 1896 both the Populists and the Democrats nominated William Jennings Bryan of Nebraska for president. Bryan ran as the Democratic candidate and lost despite winning Texas and many other states. The Populist Party faded from the political scene as members argued about policy issues. The Democrats also weakened the party by adopting some of the Populists' programs. Even so, Texas farmers continued to face problems.

★ TEKS **Reading Check Finding the Main Idea** What civic responsibility were Alliance members fulfilling when they formed the People's Party?



Section 1 Review



Questions 2, 3, 4a, 4b, 5

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Practice
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keyword: ST3 HP24

1 Define and explain:

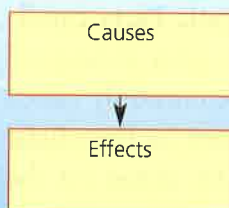
- cooperative stores
- pooling
- platform

2 Identify and explain:

- Grange
- Southern Farmers' Alliance
- Populist Party
- Populists
- John Rayner

3 Identifying Cause and Effect

Copy the graphic organizer below. Use it to show the causes and effects of the boom-and-bust cycle of farming in Texas.



4 Finding the Main Idea

- How did the national market for crops and world competition affect Texas farmers?
- What did the Grange and the Southern Farmers' Alliance hope to achieve?

5 Writing and Critical Thinking

Supporting a Point of View Imagine that you are a member of the People's Party. Write a speech in which you argue for one of the positions taken by the Populist group.

Consider the following:

- farmers' problems with debt, railroad rates, and high prices for goods
- reasons your organization was formed



Government in the Reform Age

Read to Discover

1. How did big business affect the free-enterprise system in Texas?
2. What kinds of reforms did James Stephen Hogg help pass?
3. Who was Farmer Jim, and what role did he play in Texas politics?

Why It Matters Today

During the late 1800s and early 1900s, many Texans worried about the influence of big business on politics. Use CNNfyi.com or other **current events** sources to find information about big business and government policies today. Record your findings in your journal.

Define

- trusts
- monopoly

Identify

- James Stephen Hogg
- Interstate Commerce Commission
- Antitrust Act of 1889
- Hogg Laws
- John H. Reagan
- James E. Ferguson

The Story Continues

The railroad foreman at Marshall was late for work. The Texas and Pacific Railway fired him, prompting the foremen's union to strike against the railroad company. Only a year before, the union had carried out a successful strike for better wages against another railroad company. But the management of the Texas and Pacific was determined to break the union this time. Violence broke out, and the governor sent in troops. Soon the strike was crushed. With the strike over, workers returned to their jobs.



During the late 1800s the Texas and Pacific Railway ran lines from Marshall to Texarkana and other Texas towns.



Government and Big Business

By the late 1800s many railroad companies, oil companies, and other businesses that operated in Texas had become large and powerful. They provided many new jobs, products, and services in the state. But some Texans worried that the companies had become too powerful. Some businesses had formed **trusts**—legal arrangements in which one board of trustees controls a number of companies. A **monopoly**—sole economic control of a field of business—could be more easily created by using a trust. A monopoly eliminates competition, giving one corporation the ability to control prices. Because of monopolies, Texans often

Biography



James Stephen Hogg (1851–1906)

Born in Rusk, James Stephen Hogg was the first native-born governor of Texas. As a young man, Hogg worked in the newspaper business and as a lawyer. He began his political career in 1876. He served as county attorney, district attorney, attorney general, and governor. After his terms as governor, Hogg returned to his law practice. He never ran for elected office again, but he continued to be politically active until his death.

How did James Stephen Hogg contribute to Texas politics? ★ TEKS

had to pay higher prices for the goods they needed. Some people argued that this lack of competition violated the principles of free enterprise. These Texans wanted government policies that would regulate the power of these corporations. Government regulation met with opposition, however, because others argued that it also limited free enterprise.

One Texan who believed in reform was **James Stephen Hogg**, a Democrat who was elected attorney general of Texas in 1886. Hogg brought lawsuits against companies with unfair business practices. He targeted insurance companies that were engaging in illegal activities, forcing many of them to stop operating in Texas. He then broke up the Texas Traffic Association, a railroad organization that eliminated competition and drove up shipping rates through pooling. Hogg and many Texans believed these practices violated the spirit of free enterprise.

In 1887 the federal government passed an act that created the **Interstate Commerce Commission**. This federal agency regulated railroads. The act also made pooling illegal and prohibited railroads from charging more for short hauls than for long ones over the same line. Hogg helped write state antitrust legislation that further regulated railroads. The **Antitrust Act of 1889** regulated monopolies and trusts that were dominating the market in Texas. It targeted railroads by making it illegal to fix prices or restrain competition. The state won court cases against many railroads and other industries that violated the Antitrust Act. Price-fixing, or the setting of prices artificially and contrary to free-market operations, in the railroad industry decreased, but problems still existed. For example, rates for rural communities were still high. Many Texans demanded more regulation.

★ **Reading Check Identifying Cause and Effect** What new business practices arose in the late 1800s, and how did they affect free enterprise?

Interpreting Political Cartoons

Slaying trusts. Charles Culberson served as Governor Hogg's attorney general. What types of trusts is Culberson attempting to slay in this political cartoon? ★ TEKS



★ Hogg as Governor

James Hogg's reforms as attorney general were popular with Texas voters. In 1890 he was elected governor by a landslide. His administration pushed for a number of laws regulating business, which became known as **Hogg Laws**. Texas had no agency that could effectively enforce public-interest laws. In 1891 Hogg tackled this issue by creating the Texas Railroad Commission to oversee railroads in the state. He appointed former U.S. senator **John H. Reagan** head of the commission. Although many Texans had supported the creation of the agency, some feared it would slow economic growth. They thought railroads would decrease investment in new tracks and lines in the state.



“There can be no doubt that the creation of a railroad commission in answer to the demand of an anti-railroad sentiment [feeling], speaking through politicians and demagogues [bad leaders], would put a stop to investments in railroads.”

—Fort Worth Gazette, August 30, 1889

Governor Hogg promoted other reforms, particularly for the public school system. He supported teacher-training schools and universities, as well as teacher-training scholarships. The governor also tried to reform the prison system and to change laws regarding corporate landholdings. Hogg's reforms proved popular, and he was re-elected.

Hogg was governor of Texas during a controversy concerning the border of Texas. The Texas legislature had passed an act in 1860 to form Greer County. However, the U.S. government claimed the area as part of its territory. The dispute stemmed from two major mistakes on a map created in 1819. In 1891 the U.S. attorney general filed suit against the Texas claim. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that the disputed land belonged to the federal government. Hogg had already left office by the time the ruling was issued.

Under the leadership of Hogg and other party leaders such as Edward M. House, the Democrats dominated Texas politics. Charles Culberson, who had been attorney general during Hogg's administration, became governor in 1895. Culberson also pursued a reform agenda. Other reform-minded leaders such as Thomas M. Campbell continued to work on public interest issues. During his terms as governor from 1907 to 1911, Campbell helped enact railroad regulations, antitrust laws, and pure food and drug laws.

★ **Reading Check Summarizing** How did reform affect Texas businesses?

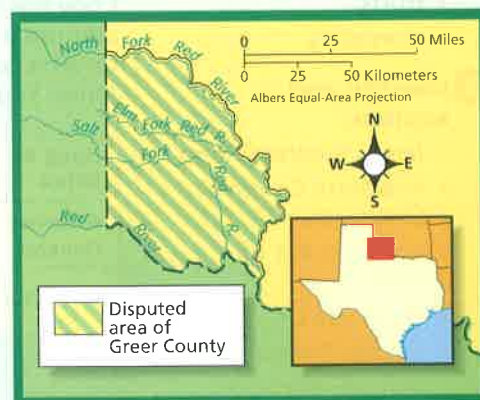
★ TEXAS

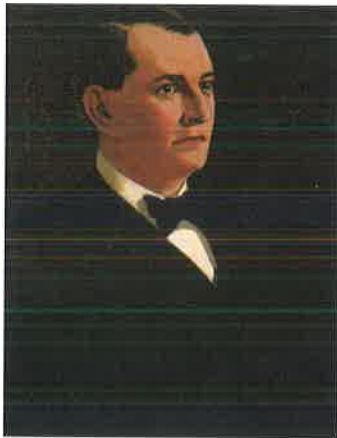
Analyzing Primary Sources
Drawing Inferences and Conclusions How does the writer think the new commission will affect Texas?

CONNECTING TO GEOGRAPHY

The Greer County Dispute

The conflict grew out of the 1819 Adams-Onís Treaty, which was accompanied by a map with the boundaries separating Spanish and U.S. territories. However, the map had two major mistakes. As a result, Texas and the U.S. government both claimed a certain area along the upper Red River. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled in 1896 that what Texas called Greer County was actually federal land. The land eventually became part of Oklahoma Territory in 1906. **Where was the disputed region located?** ★ TEKS





Governor James Ferguson was outspoken and colorful.

★ Farmer Jim

James E. Ferguson was another influential member of the Texas Democratic Party. He gained the support of the state's poor citizens, particularly its tenant farmers, by working for reform. Because of his support of Texas farmers and poor people, Ferguson was nicknamed Farmer Jim. One of his admirers wrote, "He swayed them [rural voters] like the storm sways the slender pines." Those opposed to Ferguson said that he was dishonest and that he stirred up people for his own benefit. Most Texas voters seemed to like Ferguson, however, and he was elected governor in 1914 and 1916.

Several important reforms were passed during Ferguson's first term. The legislature passed a law limiting the rent landowners could charge tenant farmers. Although it was later struck down by the courts, the law represented a bold effort to help farmers. Another new law provided aid to rural schools and more funds to colleges. The most important law passed during Ferguson's second term established a highway department in 1917 to improve Texas roads.

As governor, Ferguson developed some powerful enemies who accused him of misusing state funds. In his second term he vetoed most of the funding for the University of Texas because school officials did not fire certain faculty members as he requested. Many Texans disapproved of the veto, and some wanted him removed from office. The Texas House of Representatives impeached the governor in 1917, filing 21 charges against him. The Senate found the governor guilty of 10 charges, including using state funds for personal benefit. Ferguson left office, and Lieutenant Governor William P. Hobby became the new governor.

★ **Reading Check Analyzing Information** How successful was Ferguson in enacting reform legislation?



Section 2 Review

★ TEKS Questions 2, 3, 4a, 4b, 5

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keyword: ST3 HP24

1 Define and explain:

- trusts
- monopoly

2 Identify and explain:

- James Stephen Hogg
- Interstate Commerce Commission
- Antitrust Act of 1889
- Hogg Laws
- John H. Reagan
- James E. Ferguson

3 Categorizing

Copy the chart below and use it to show the reforms backed by James Stephen Hogg.

Hogg in Office	Effect on Texas
Attorney General	
Governor	

4 Finding the Main Idea

- How was the free-enterprise system in Texas affected by the rise of big business?
- What reforms were passed while James Ferguson was governor?

5 Writing and Critical Thinking

Analyzing Information Imagine that you are a Texan in the late 1800s. Write a newspaper editorial defending or opposing government regulation of corporations and its effect on the free-enterprise system.

Consider the following:

- how regulation will change business
- how regulation will affect consumers



The Progressive Movement

Read to Discover

1. What changes did progressives bring to politics and local government?
2. How did progressives try to reform society?

Why It Matters Today

To force changes in working conditions, union laborers have occasionally gone on strike. Use CNNfyi.com or other **current events** sources to find information about a recent labor action. Record your findings in your journal.

Define

- progressives
- commission plan

Identify

- Terrell Election Law
- Seventeenth Amendment

The Story Continues

Elizabeth Gaertner moved from New York City to Galveston as a young girl. After marrying a successful merchant, Alphonse Levy, she took care of her children and joined some clubs. Although she raised her own children in a comfortable home, she was aware of the less fortunate around her. She soon became active in her community. She was one of the many women working to solve social problems in Texas cities.



Elizabeth Gaertner took baskets of food to poor Texans.



Government Reform

In the early 1900s reformers known as **progressives** worked to improve society. *Progressive* means “forward-looking” or “relating to progress.” Progressives tackled a variety of issues, including election reform. In 1905 the Texas legislature passed the **Terrell Election Law**, named after its sponsor Alexander W. Terrell. The law established primary elections to choose candidates for all state, district, and county races. Candidates who won would represent their party in the later general elections. The law also attacked election fraud—for example, by requiring the use of official ballots. The passage of the **Seventeenth Amendment** to the U.S. Constitution in 1913 allowed American voters—rather than the state legislatures—to vote directly for U.S. senators.

Another of the progressives’ goals was to make local government more efficient. A major natural disaster in Galveston in September 1900

That's Interesting!

The Great Storm

After the disastrous 1900 hurricane, Galveston residents struggled to rebuild. One of their efforts involved raising the city to a greater height above sea level. To do this, they pumped sand into the city from the ocean floor. Any buildings that had survived the hurricane were then jacked up and placed on new foundations. In addition, a 17-foot-high seawall was built along the beach for protection.

Interpreting the Visual Record

The great storm. The hurricane of 1900 left much of Galveston a pile of rubble. Based on this photo, how would you have felt if you had experienced the Galveston storm?



spurred this reform effort. On September 8 a huge hurricane was moving toward the city. Residents went on about their business—they had been through hurricanes before. While observing the ocean early that Saturday morning, Galveston weather reporter Isaac Cline began to worry.

Texas Voices

“Unusually heavy swells [waves] from the southeast . . . overflowing low places [in the] south portion of the city three to four blocks from beach. . . . Such high water with opposing winds never observed previously.”

—Isaac Cline, quoted in *Texas: An Album of History*, by James L. Haley

The hurricane hit later that day. Waves battered Galveston, drowning people and destroying buildings. Some 6,000 to 8,000 people lost their lives, and half the city lay in ruins.

Many people in Galveston felt that the city government could not cope with the disaster. To rebuild the city, a new form of local government called the **commission plan** was established. Under this plan, an elected city commission shares both executive and legislative powers. Each commissioner supervises different city services. The new government of Galveston oversaw the rebuilding of the city, including the construction of a six-mile seawall to protect the island. Progressives liked the commission plan because of its efficiency. In choosing commissioners, emphasis was placed more on knowledge of city services and less on politics. The commission plan was a major reform of the progressive movement, and it was soon adopted by other U.S. cities.



Reading Check Analyzing Information How did geographic factors such as weather lead to a reform in the structure of local government in Texas?

★ Workplace and Health Reform

Progressives also tried to help Texas workers, many of whom labored long hours but earned little. Along with unions, progressives fought for higher wages, better working conditions, and a shorter workweek for factory workers. Progressives also opposed child labor. Children who worked in factories faced serious illness from long hours and poor conditions. Many received little education or exercise. Texas passed its first child labor law in 1903. Laws that regulated child labor more strictly soon followed.

Progressives also worried about unregulated food and drugs. Eating poorly processed food or taking unsafe medications made many people sick each year. Progressives such as the members of Texas Federation of Women's Clubs backed candidates who favored food and drug regulation. The clubs helped elect progressive candidate Thomas M. Campbell in 1906. During Campbell's administration, the legislature passed laws to regulate the food and drug industries and created the Dairy and Food Commission to set health standards. These laws led to increased costs for businesses that had to meet the higher standards. However, most Texans agreed that the benefits outweighed the costs because the laws helped improve the lives and health of many in the state.

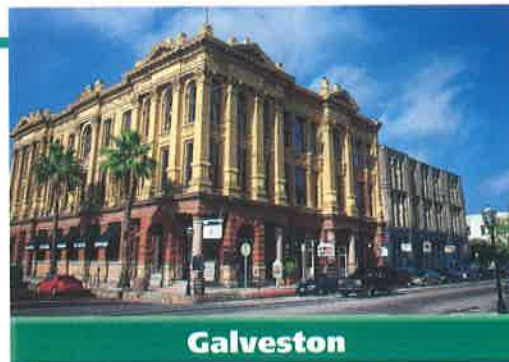
★ **Reading Check Finding the Main Idea** What social reforms and government regulations did progressives pursue?

★ Education Reform

Many progressives, particularly women, also tried to improve Texas schools. Texas ranked near the bottom in the nation for its education system. About 15 percent of Texas children older than 10 could not read or write. Teachers were often untrained, and schools lacked the proper resources and facilities.

In the late 1800s and early 1900s the state established several schools to train teachers. These included Sam Houston Normal Institute in Huntsville and Southwest Texas State Normal School in San Marcos. The state also established medical schools such as the University of Texas Medical School near Galveston. During the early 1900s the legislature passed a number of laws to improve the public school system.

Texas Cities



History: The city of Galveston was founded in 1836. With its good natural harbor and growing trade, the city had a booming local economy. The city was also a popular arrival spot for immigrants to Texas.

Population in 2000: 57,247

Relative location: Located on the eastern end of Galveston Island, some 50 miles southeast of Houston.

Region: Gulf Coastal Plain

County: County seat of Galveston County

Special feature: Located on an island, the city is a popular destination for tourists and beachgoers.

Origin of name: The city was named after Galveston Bay, which was named by explorer José de Evia in 1785. Evia named the bay in honor of Bernardo de Gálvez, then the viceroy of New Spain.

Economy: Galveston's economy today is largely based on tourism and shipping. The city's port is still active, and large numbers of people come to Galveston for recreation.





Education reformers pushed for more money to fund schools and to help pay for books, teachers' salaries, and other supplies such as desks.

Under the new laws, rural schools could borrow money and raise tax rates. More local funds could also be used to provide free textbooks. In addition, the legislature raised teachers' salaries and lengthened school terms. The reforms helped some 1 million Texas children attend school by 1910. The number of children in school increased after the legislature passed a law in 1915 requiring school attendance.

The reforms in the school system changed the lives of many Texans. More women gained access to education in the late 1800s than ever before. By 1890 more girls than boys attended Texas schools. Some women went on to get a higher education. Several colleges, including the University of Texas, began allowing women to attend. The Girls' Industrial College—now Texas Woman's University—opened in 1903. As educational opportunities for women increased, so too did their job prospects, particularly in the field of education. So many women became teachers that by 1900 they outnumbered men in teaching positions in Texas.

Education reform did not reach all Texans, however. African American and Mexican American students generally did not benefit from Progressive Era changes in education. The Constitution of 1876 had established separate funding for schools based on race. As a result, many Mexican Americans and African Americans did not have equal educational opportunities. The schools they attended often lacked adequate funding for facilities and supplies. Prairie View Normal Institute—now known as Prairie View A&M University—had been founded for African Americans, but it struggled for decades to obtain sufficient funding. African Americans seeking to earn law or medical degrees had to attend out-of-state schools. The fight to make public schools serve all Texans was only just beginning.

★ TEKS Reading Check Categorizing List some of the successes and some of the failures of education reform in the Progressive Era.

Section 3 Review **★ TEKS** Questions 2, 3, 4a, 4b, 5 **go.hrw.com** Homework Practice Online **keyword: ST3 HP24**

- 1 Define and explain:**
- progressives
 - commission plan

- 2 Identify and explain:**
- Terrell Election Law
 - Seventeenth Amendment

- 3 Summarizing** Copy the chart below and use it to show the progressives' reforms in the workplace, society, and education.

Progressive Reforms in Texas	
Workplace	
Society	
Education	

- 4 Finding the Main Idea**
- How did reformers change the state's political system?
 - How did the structure of local government change in Texas during the Progressive Era?

- 5 Writing and Critical Thinking** **TAKS**
- Evaluating** Choose an issue that progressives were attempting to reform. Then write a paragraph in which you analyze progressives' success in reform regarding the issue. Consider the following:
- reforms proposed
 - how these reforms affected life in Texas

Women and the Progressive Movement

Read to Discover

1. How did prohibition affect state politics?
2. How did life for women and minorities change during the Progressive Era?

Why It Matters Today

During the Progressive Era, women became increasingly involved in politics. Use CNNfyi.com or other **current events** sources to find information about women who are active in politics today. Record your findings in your journal.

Define

- temperance movement
- prohibition
- poll tax

Identify

- Eighteenth Amendment
- Annie Webb Blanton
- Eleanor Brackenridge
- Jane McCallum
- Nineteenth Amendment
- Jovita Idar

The Story Continues

Carry Nation and her new husband, a physician, looked forward to their life together. The young couple soon had a baby girl, but her husband's alcohol abuse had already destroyed the marriage. Nation remarried in 1877 and moved to Texas in 1879. She became a strong opponent of alcohol sales and even used hatchets to destroy saloons.



Prohibition backers wore hatchet pins such as this one in support of Carry Nation and her efforts.

The Temperance Movement

Like Carry Nation, many Texans worried about the effects alcohol abuse had on families. This led to the growth of the **temperance movement**, a social reform effort that encouraged people to drink less alcohol. Support for **prohibition**—the banning of the manufacture, distribution, and sale of alcohol—increased during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Many men and women supported prohibition as part of their religious beliefs. Organizations such as the Woman's Christian Temperance Union and the Anti-Saloon League pushed for prohibition. In 1895 more than half of the state's counties had placed limits on the production and sale of alcohol.

Prohibition became an even more important political issue in the early 1900s. The *Dallas Morning News* described prohibition as the

That's Interesting!

Clara Driscoll and the Alamo

Texas women took up many causes. Between 1903 and 1905 Clara Driscoll worked with the Daughters of the Republic of Texas to save the Alamo. The old mission had been purchased by a wholesale grocery company and fallen into poor condition. Driscoll used her personal fortune to buy the Alamo property, helping to save it for future generations.



After years of working for progressive reforms, suffragists finally won the right to vote with the Nineteenth Amendment, ratified in 1920.

“paramount [dominant] . . . issue in our politics.” The Democratic Party was split between those against and those for prohibition. Candidates often ran for election chiefly on the prohibition issue. In 1917 U.S. senator Morris Sheppard of Texas sponsored a constitutional amendment for national prohibition. The **Eighteenth Amendment** won the support of enough state legislatures—including the Texas legislature—to be ratified in 1919. As a result, the manufacture and sale of alcohol became illegal throughout the nation in 1920.

★ Reading Check Analyzing Information How did prohibition affect the Texas Democratic Party?

★ The Suffrage Movement

Women played a vital role not only in prohibition but also in most progressive reforms. They fought to protect working mothers' rights and for new laws limiting child labor, ensuring food safety, and requiring school attendance. Some women even held political office. In 1918 **Annie Webb Blanton** became the first woman to win election to a Texas state office. She served as the state's superintendent of public instruction. As state superintendent, she helped establish a system of free textbooks, revise the teacher certification process, and improve rural education.

An overriding issue for women of the time was the effort to gain the right to vote. In 1913 **Eleanor Brackenridge** was chosen president of the Texas Woman Suffrage Association, later known as the Texas Equal Suffrage Association. Minnie Fisher Cunningham, Annie Webb Blanton, and **Jane McCallum** were other important suffrage leaders in Texas. Association leaders believed that “no state can be a true democracy in which one half of the people are denied the right to vote.” They campaigned across the state in favor of voting rights for women. However, the suffragists faced strong opposition in Texas. Cunningham and the other suffrage leaders struggled to convince Texans that women should be allowed to participate in the state's politics.

Women in other states were also working for suffrage. Finally, in 1919 the U.S. Congress proposed the **Nineteenth Amendment** to the U.S. Constitution, granting women suffrage. The Texas legislature ratified the amendment in June 1919. In 1920 the amendment won ratification nationally, giving American women the right to vote.

Jane McCallum and other leaders went on to work with the Women's Joint Legislative Council. This group focused on education, prison reform, and child-labor issues. Nicknamed the Petticoat Lobby, this group was an influential force in Texas politics for years to come.

★ Reading Check Summarizing How did Texas women exercise their civic responsibilities in the early 1900s?

★ Limits of Reform

African American and Mexican American women in Texas also fought for reforms. In many cases, however, they were not welcomed by white reformers. For example, many women's suffrage groups were white only. Nonetheless, Christia Adair, a black Texan, worked for women's suffrage and equal rights for all black Texans. In South Texas, **Jovita Idar** organized people to support women's rights as well as rights for Mexican Americans in Texas. She also campaigned for education for poor children. Like many Texas women, Idar played an active role in reform efforts during the Progressive Era. Despite the efforts of Adair, Idar, and others, measures were passed in Texas denying suffrage to members of minority groups. Voting in local Democratic primary elections was restricted to white Texans only. In 1902 Texas began to require a **poll tax**, a tax on voting. As a result, poor Texans, many of whom were African American and Mexican American, could not afford to vote.

African Americans in Texas were denied the benefits of reform in other areas as well. The state legislature and city governments passed more Jim Crow laws during the early 1900s. Between 1910 and 1925, several Texas towns imposed segregated housing laws. Public facilities, restaurants, and hotels—even drinking fountains—were segregated. African Americans also faced racial violence. Increased racial hostility sometimes led to the lynching—or killing by a mob—of black citizens. Many years would go by before laws were passed to help protect the rights of African Americans in Texas.

★ **Reading Check** Finding the Main Idea What were some of the limits of reform?

Biography



Jovita Idar
(1885–1946)

As a young woman, Jovita Idar of Laredo worked for her father's newspaper, *La Crónica*. The newspaper became a vocal political tool for Mexican Americans. Idar helped establish the League of Mexican Women. Idar was its first president. After her marriage in 1917, Idar moved to San Antonio. There she was active in community service, including serving as an interpreter for Spanish-speaking patients in a hospital. **How did Jovita Idar exercise her civic responsibilities in her lifetime?** ★ TEKS



Section 4 Review



Questions 2, 3, 4a, 4b, 5

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.com Homework
Practice
Online
keyword: ST3 HP24

- 1 Define and explain:**
- temperance movement
 - prohibition
 - poll tax

- 2 Identify and explain:**
- Eighteenth Amendment
 - Annie Webb Blanton
 - Eleanor Brackenridge
 - Jane McCallum
 - Nineteenth Amendment
 - Jovita Idar

- 3 Analyzing Information**
- Copy the graphic organizer below. Use it to show how activists in Texas affected national progressive reforms.


Eighteenth
Amendment

Nineteenth
Amendment

- 4 Finding the Main Idea**
- a.** Explain the different points of view held by members of the Democratic Party on prohibition. How did differing points of view affect the party?
- b.** Who did not benefit from the progressives' reforms?

- 5 Writing and Critical Thinking** **TAKS**
- Summarizing** Write an editorial on the achievements and the limitations of the effort to expand democracy in the Progressive Era. Consider the following:
- the Nineteenth Amendment
 - the poll tax and Jim Crow laws

The Chapter at a Glance

Examine the following visual summary of the chapter. Then use the visual to create an outline of the chapter you can use to study with a classmate. 

Identifying People and Ideas

Use the following terms or people in historically significant sentences.

1. Grange
2. Populists
3. monopoly
4. James Stephen Hogg
5. James E. Ferguson
6. progressives
7. commission plan
8. prohibition
9. Eleanor Brackenridge
10. Nineteenth Amendment

Understanding Main Ideas

Section 1 (pp. 498–502)

1. Explain the effect of the national agricultural market on Texas farmers' lives in the late 1800s.
2. What effect did railroad companies' practices have on farmers' lives?
3. What were the reform policies of the Populist Party?

Section 2 (pp. 503–506)

4. What were the effects of trusts and monopolies on the Texas economy?
5. What reforms did James Stephen Hogg fight for as attorney general and governor?

Section 3 (pp. 507–510)

6. What social, educational, and governmental reforms did the progressives support?

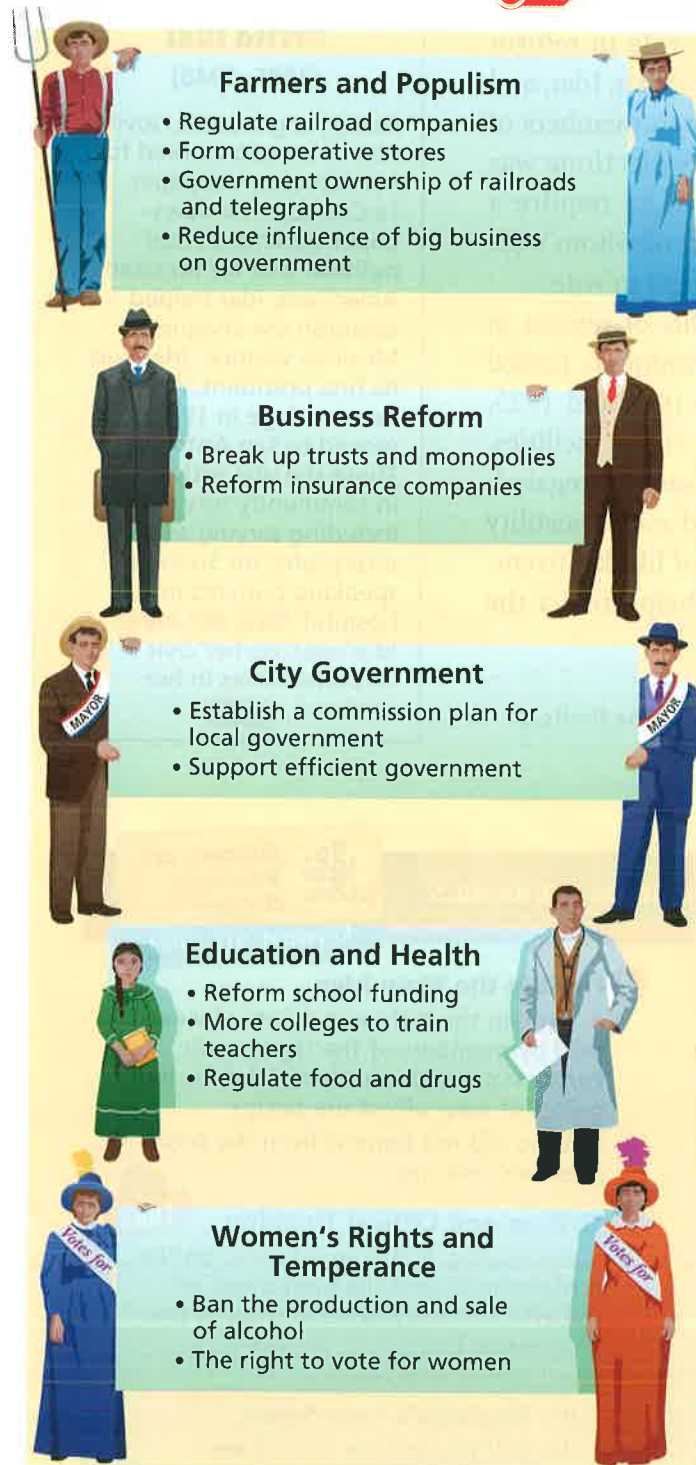
Section 4 (pp. 511–513)

7. What role did women play in the progressive movement, and what important right did they gain?

You Be the Historian

Reviewing Themes

1. **Economics** How did government regulations in the late 1800s and early 1900s try to protect business competition?
2. **Government** How did reformers change national, state, and local government?
3. **Citizenship** How did farmers, laborers, and women work to solve problems during the late 1800s and early 1900s?



Farmers and Populism

- Regulate railroad companies
- Form cooperative stores
- Government ownership of railroads and telegraphs
- Reduce influence of big business on government

Business Reform

- Break up trusts and monopolies
- Reform insurance companies

City Government

- Establish a commission plan for local government
- Support efficient government

Education and Health

- Reform school funding
- More colleges to train teachers
- Regulate food and drugs

Women's Rights and Temperance

- Ban the production and sale of alcohol
- The right to vote for women

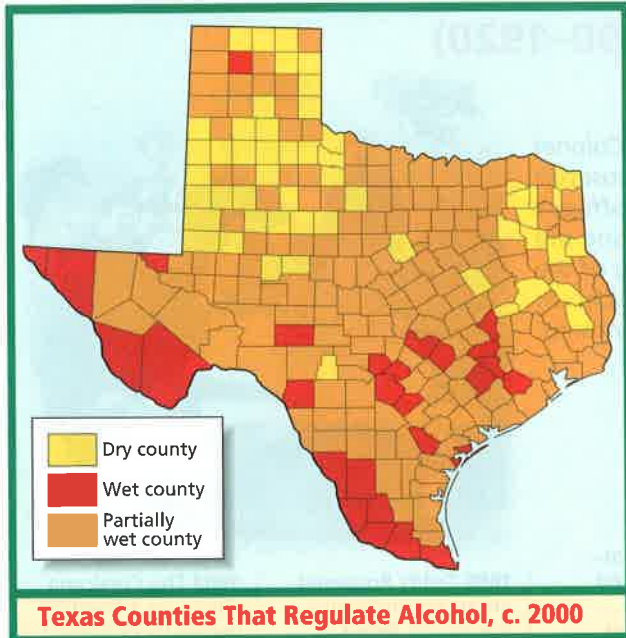


Practice: Thinking Critically

1. **Analyzing Information** What effect did weather have on the reform of local government in Texas?
2. **Summarizing** Describe some of the defining characteristics of the Progressive Era.
3. **Sequencing** List in order and by date significant reforms achieved by women.

Interpreting Maps ★TEKS

Study the map below. Then use the information on the map to answer the questions that follow.



1. Many Texas counties have laws banning the sale of alcohol. These counties are called dry counties. What region had the most dry counties?
 - a. the Rio Grande valley
 - b. the Panhandle
 - c. the Gulf Coast
 - d. West Texas

2. How do you think this map reflects the legacy of the temperance movement in Texas?

Analyzing Primary Sources ★TEKS

Read the following quote from the platform of the Populist Party of Texas. Then answer the questions.

“We demand the most rigid, honest, and just national control and supervision of the means of public communication and transportation, and if this control and supervision does not remove the abuses now existing, we demand the government ownership of such means of communication and transportation.”

3. Which of the following statements best describes the party’s point of view?
 - a. Private ownership of railroads is the best policy for Texas.
 - b. Government should not interfere with how railroad companies decide to conduct their business.
 - c. The government should take control of railroads if railroads are unsupervised.
 - d. Free enterprise supports government ownership of railroads.
4. Why do you think the platform of the Populist Party singles out transportation for reform?

Alternative Assessment

Interdisciplinary Connection to Literature ★TEKS



Imagine that you are a farmer in Texas during the late 1800s and early 1900s. Write a poem or song in which you express your fears about your livelihood and your hopes for the future. Be sure to include the sources of your problems such as the effects of international and national markets, overproduction of crops, falling crop prices, debt, and droughts. Create an illustration to accompany your poem or song. The illustration should include images from your everyday life as a farmer in Texas.

internet connect

Internet Activity: go.hrw.com
 KEYWORD: ST3 TX24 ★TEKS

Access the Internet through the HRW Go site to research how the Galveston hurricane of 1900 affected the political, economic, and social development of Texas. Then locate, differentiate, and use primary and secondary sources to create a pamphlet that shows the various ways in which the hurricane changed Galveston’s people, infrastructure, and government.

