Legacy of the Civil War:
Political, Economic, and Social Changes
Student Goals:

• You should be able to explain to me some of the political, economic, and social changes that came about as a result of the Civil War.
Review

• What were the advantages/disadvantages for the North and South entering the war?
• Why was the death toll so high during this war?
• What was the turning point in the war?
• How was the North able to overcome their lack of quality military leadership to win the war?
Political Changes

- Federal gov’t is supreme!
- States don’t have the right to secede – the North’s victory validates this
- Conscription – the “draft”
- Habeas corpus – suspended during the war; will be an issue in future wars
Economic Changes

• Northern economy thrives
• Industry/manufacturing takes off (becomes a war machine)
• Southern economy is destroyed
• Slavery abolished
• Destruction of towns and cities; major infrastructure
• Pre-Civil War – South contained about 30 percent of the US wealth
• Post-Civil War – South contained less than 12 percent of the wealth
• New system for agriculture will come about = Sharecropping
By the time sharecroppers had shared their crops and paid their debts, they rarely had any money left. A sharecropper became tied to one plantation, having to work until his debts were paid.

1. Sharecropper receives land and seed. In exchange, he promises landowner half the crop.

2. Sharecropper buys food and clothing on credit from landowner’s store.

3. Sharecropper plants and harvests crop.

4. Sharecropper gives landowner crop to sell. Sharecropper gets half the earnings, minus his debt for the year.

5. When settling up, landowner says that sharecropper owes more than he has earned.

6. To pay debt, sharecropper promises landowner a greater share of next year’s crop.
Technology and Innovation

- Telegraph
- Extensive use of R.R.
- The mini-ball
- Better rifles
- Grenades
- Ironclads & submarines
Social Changes

• 13th Amendment – slavery is abolished
• 14th Amendment – defines citizenship and makes all freed slaves “citizens”; expands rights
• 15th Amendment – extends voting rights to all men
• War is over, now what?
• People move to the cities
• People move out “west”
• Many families have lost loved ones
• Many soldiers try to figure out how to live with a disability
Reconstructing a Nation

Key Question at the End of the War:
“How will the South be treated? Conquered territory or equal states?”

Lincoln takes a “soft” approach – 10 percent plan (offered to the South before the end of the War)

• 10 percent of the voting population (based on 1860 election) must sign loyalty oaths—could be reinstated to the union

• Rewrite their state constitutions to include the abolish of slavery

• Pardon all members of the South with the exception of high ranking military and civilian Confederate officers
Radical Republicans in Congress

- Feel that Lincoln’s Plan is too soft on the South
- Wade-Davis Bill
- Much tougher requirements
- 50+ percent must take loyalty oaths
- Passed by the House and Senate
- Lincoln uses a “pocket veto”
- April 14, 1865 – Lincoln is assassinated
- Andrew Johnson becomes president
Congress vs. the President

• Andrew Johnson is not liked by the “Radical Republicans” who control Congress
• Former slave owner
• Viewed as being sympathetic to the south
• Johnson continues with a “soft” approach towards Reconstruction
• Refuses to comply with the Tenure of Office Act
• Andrew Johnson is eventually impeached by the House of Rep’s, but survives removal by one vote in the Senate
• Weakens the presidency for the next few decades
Feds vs. the States

- Black Codes adopted in the South
- Congress responds with several civil rights bills
- Life for many slaves does not change; mass poverty
- Freedmen’s Bureau – financial assistance & schools for African Americans in the South
- “Carpet baggers” – politicians & business folks who come to the South looking for power & wealth
- Federal military districts (1867-1877)
- Resentment in the South
Military Districts

MILITARY RECONSTRUCTION

Military districts and commanding generals:
1. Schofield
2. SICKLES
3. Pope
4. Ord
5. Sheridan

State:
1868 Date of readmission to Union
1871 Date conservative rule reestablished

Tennessee had been readmitted before military reconstruction was established in 1867.
End of Reconstruction – Rise of Segregation

- Election of 1876
- Rutherford B. Hayes (Republican) vs. Samuel Tilden (Democrat)
- Tilden wins popular vote
- However, the Electoral College is up in the air
- Allegations of Corruption
- The 2\textsuperscript{nd} Corrupt Bargain: South agrees to allow Hayes to be Prez, but the North must remove the military troops enforcing
The Jim Crow South

- Segregation – separation created between Blacks and Whites
- Separate facilities in every aspect of life
- *Plessy v. Ferguson* (1896)
- Violence and Intimidation
- The federal gov’t does nothing until the Civil Rights Movement of the 1950s & 1960s