

New South Era

New South Era

- **New South Era**- Years between 1877 and 1918; the period after Reconstruction where political and community leaders in the South sought to diversify Georgia's economy and bring Northern industry and/or investments into the state
- **New South Era** saw Atlanta “rise from the ashes” to become one of the most important cities of the South
- It was also a time of terrible racism and injustice



Look at what is behind the woman: coloring, buildings, mood

What is the woman wearing? Holding? How is she standing? What does she represent?

Bottom: Look at coloring, objects, mood

Bourbon Triumvirate

- 3 powerful Georgia politicians who dominated Georgia politics from the 1870's-90's
- -Known for being white supremacists, developing mining and railroad industries, supporting old antebellum class, implementing low taxes and few government services, taking advantage of the **convict lease system**: a system that provided convict labor to private parties such as railroad companies or plantation owners.
- -Power waned as members retired or died and Populist Party and New Democrats came to power

- **John B. Gordon (1832-1904)** - prominent Confederate major general; member of the U.S. Senate (1872- 1880 and 1891-1897); Governor of Georgia (1886); possible leader of the KKK in Georgia.





- **Alfred Colquitt-** (1824-1894) - a lawyer, preacher, 49th Governor of Georgia (1877-1882) and two-term U.S. Senator from Georgia (1883-1894), died in office. He served as an officer in the Confederate army

- **Joseph E. Brown-** (1821-1894) - an attorney; served as the 42nd Governor of Georgia (1857-1865), the only governor to serve four terms; Georgia's Civil War governor.



- GoCoBro!



COBRO

While we consider these men to have similar views, they actually had different views and strongly disliked each other.

Henry Grady (1850-1889) - managing editor for the *Atlanta Journal Constitution* who promoted the concept of the “New South.”

- Used *AJC* to promote industrialization and diversification of Southern agriculture; active in lobbying northern investors and supporting like-minded politicians (Gordon and Brown); worked to bring the International Cotton Expositions to Atlanta and helped create Georgia Tech

- **Grady** was critiqued for showing favoritism toward Atlanta (thus ignoring other cities), focusing on industry and not agriculture, and for inaccurately portraying race relations in Georgia when lobbying for Northern investors



The **Atlanta**
Journal-
Constitution

International Cotton Expositions (1881, 1885, 1895)

- 3 large events, similar to the World's Fairs, established to display Atlanta's regrowth and industrial capabilities and to lure Northern investment to the region.

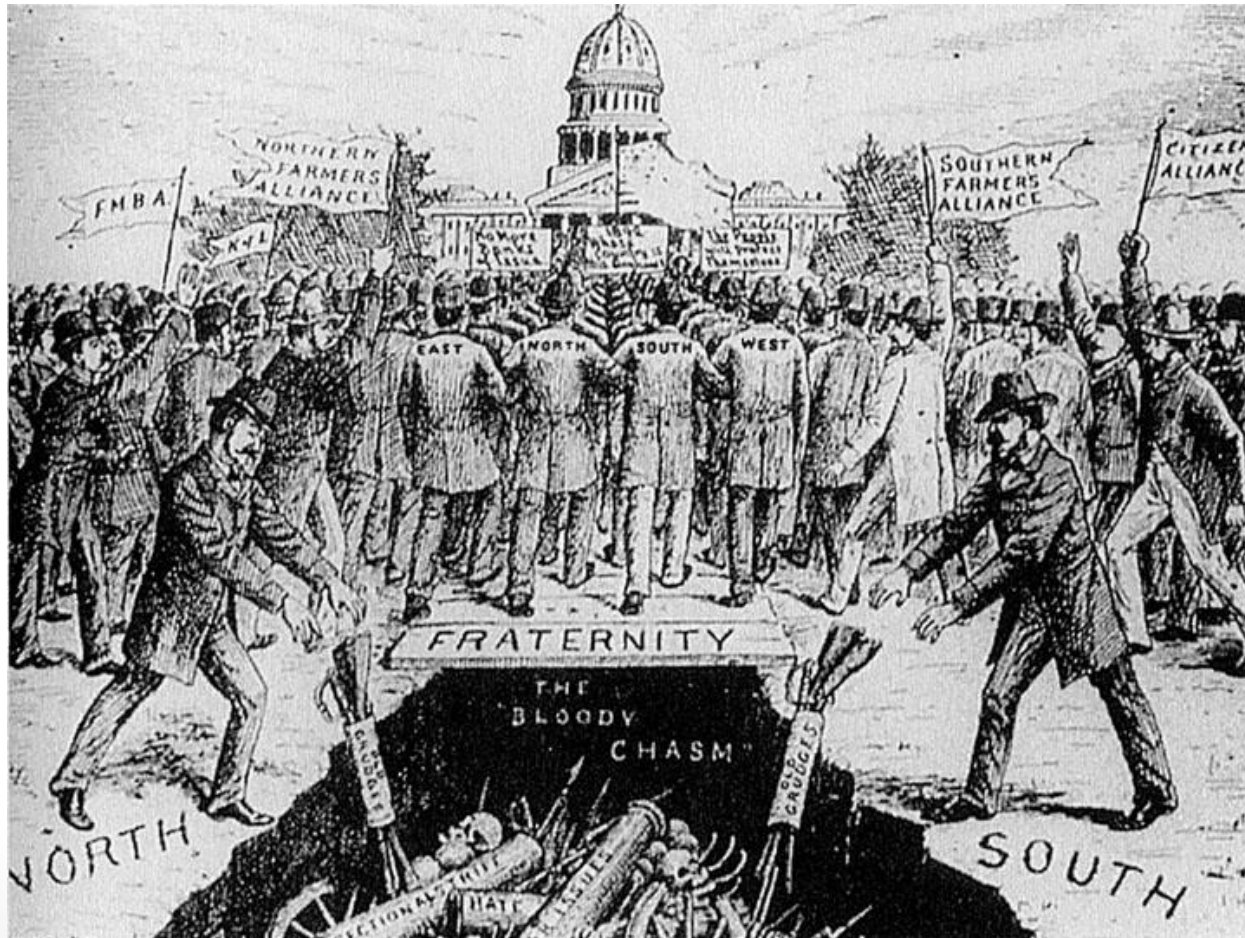




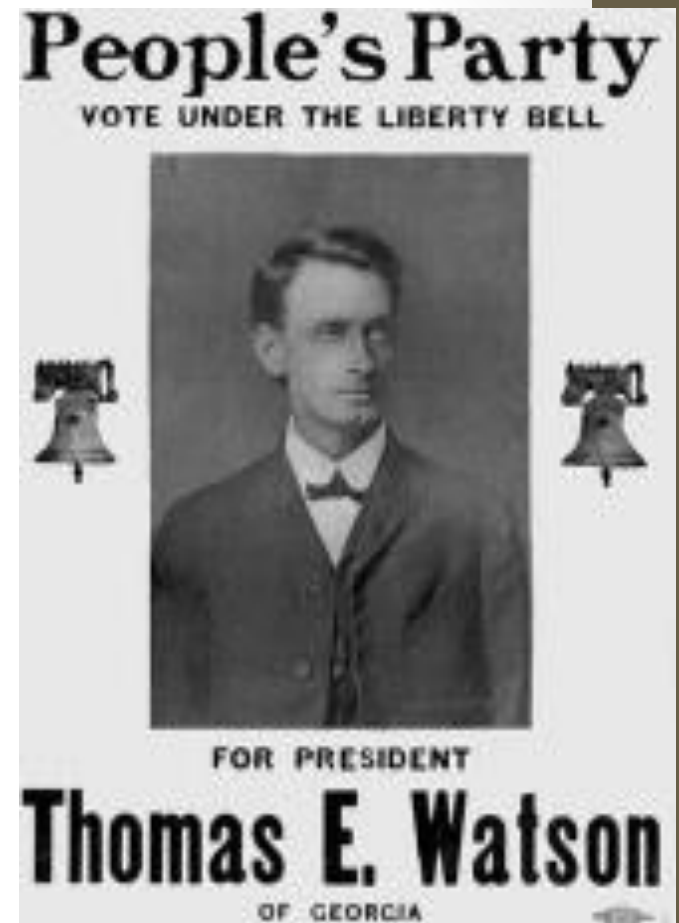
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6u1D_ueUf38

- **1895 Exposition-** most famous (and most poorly attended); Booker T. Washington gave famous “Atlanta Compromise” Speech which called for blacks to become skilled in agriculture, mechanics, and commerce and called for whites to trust blacks and provide opportunities for them to be successful.
- Rather than advocate for equal political and social power, Washington eased white fears about racial integration, argued that the races could be **"as separate as the fingers, yet one as the hand in all things essential to mutual progress."**

- **Populist Party, or the People's Party (1892-1908)** made up of farmers who supported changes in banking policies to benefit farmers, government control of railroads, and the end of the convict lease system.



Tom Watson-(1856-1922) - lawyer, writer, and politician from Georgia; most well-known for his Rural Free Delivery Bill (free mail delivery to rural areas); began his career in the independent Democrat and Populist Party with a progressive view of racial policies; ended his career as an ardent segregationist and anti-Semite



Started as a progressive



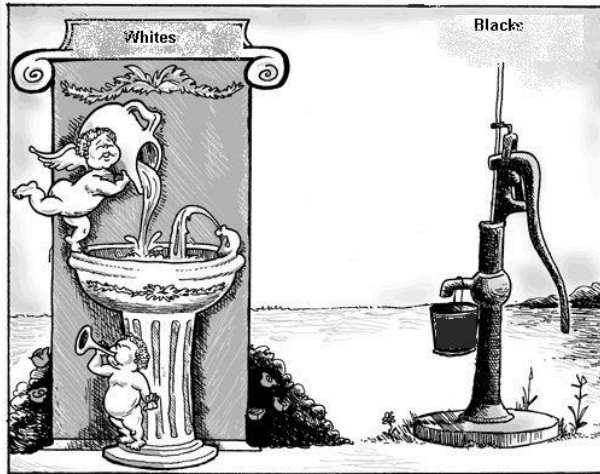
- **Plessy vs. Ferguson Court Case (1896)**- In 1892, Homer Plessy was arrested in Louisiana for sitting in the “Whites Only” section of a railcar. The Supreme Court ruled in favor of Louisiana and determined that blacks had political rights under the 14th and 15th Amendments, but not social rights; facilities could be “separate but equal”



NEGRO EXPULSION FROM RAILWAY CAR, PHILADELPHIA.

Plessy vs. Ferguson= Separate but Equal

PLESSY VS. FERGUSON



**SEPARATE
BUT NOT EQUAL**



- -Georgia and other southern states quickly separated all aspects of life, including movie theaters, rail and street cars, bathrooms and schools. However, these facilities were rarely equal.

- **Jim Crow Laws-** took away citizenship rights of African-Americans.
- **Disenfranchisement-** to deprive a person the right to vote or rights of citizenship



Disenfranchisement tactics

- **-Poll tax(1877)**- disenfranchising tactic that required voters to pay a fee to vote; prevented poor whites and blacks from voting
- **-White Primary(1900)**- tactic used by whites in Georgia to prevent blacks from voting in the Democratic primary; because Georgia was a one party state, this prevented African-Americans or Blacks from having a voice in elections.
 - Only party members could vote in the Democratic primary. "Be it resolved that all white citizens who are qualified to vote shall be eligible to membership in the Democratic party."

Disenfranchisement tactics

- **-Literacy Test(1908)-** tactic that required voters to pass a reading/writing test to vote
- **-Grandfather Clause(1890-1910)-** disenfranchisement law that said if a person's father could vote before the Civil War they would be able to vote as well.





- **1906 Atlanta Race Riot**- 48 hour riot in Atlanta caused by economic competition and false newspaper accounts of African-American men attacking white women; several African-Americans were killed during the riot.
- The violence caused negative attention for Atlanta. Black and white business leaders came together to restore order, but the riot caused deeper segregation and economic divides.

http://www.gpb.org/georgiastories/stories/race_riot_of_1906

- **Booker T. Washington** (1856-1915) - educator, author, political activist, and orator; promoted the idea that the best approach for African-Americans or Blacks to gain a foothold in white society was through hard work, education, and economic accomplishments, before gaining full civil rights (the concept of **accommodationism**).
- This idea of cooperation and “going slow” was explained in the “Atlanta Compromise Speech” at the International Cotton Exposition of 1895; criticized by W.E.B. DuBois and ultimately proved wrong by the 1906 Atlanta Race Riot.





- **W.E.B. DuBois (1863-1963)**- civil rights leader and college professor who fought for immediate social and political rights for African-Americans or Blacks; helped create the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) in 1906

- **Alonzo Herndon (1858-1927)**- GA business leader and social activist. Founded a successful barbershop that was targeted by jealous whites during the 1906 Atlanta Race Riot. Founder of the Atlanta Mutual Life Insurance Company (Atlanta Mutual Life Insurance); part of the Niagara Movement (opposed Washington's accommodationist philosophy)



- **Leo Frank Case** - trial where a Jewish pencil factory manager was accused of murdering 13 year old Mary Phagan; found guilty and sentenced to death, his sentence was later reduced to life due to additional evidence. However, a group of men calling themselves “the Knights of Mary Phagan” took Frank out of his prison cell and lynched him in Marietta.
- Showed effects of deep race issues held by white Georgians during the New South era

