

The Industrial Revolution and Latin America



AP WORLD HISTORY NOTES
CHAPTER 18
(1750-1914)

After Independence in Latin America



- Decimated populations
- Flooded or closed silver mines
- Diminished herds of livestock
- Abandoned farms
- Bankrupt treasuries
- Shrinking international trade
- Devastation from international wars
- Politically unstable



Mexican-American War (1846-1848)
(Mexico lost huge territories to the U.S.)

After Independence in Latin America: Political Instability

Conservatives

- Favored centralized authority
- Wanted social status quo of colonial era
- Wanted to maintain an alliance with strong Catholic Church

Liberals

- Attacked the Church in the name of Enlightenment values
- Wanted social reforms
- Preferred federalism

After Independence in Latin America: Political Instability



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- Conflicts between conservatives and liberals often became violent
 - Enabled caudillos (military strongmen) to achieve power as defenders of order

After Independence in Latin America



And some mestizos who rose through military ranks to become caudillos

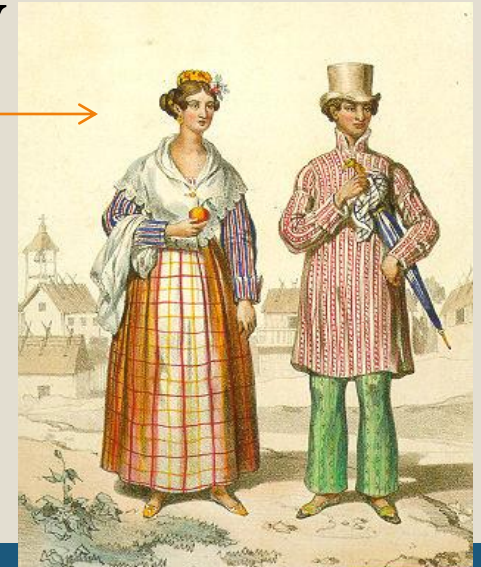
Owned businesses, ranches, and plantations

Mostly Creole whites

Middle class = small Mestizos
Teachers, shopkeepers, artisans

Lower class = majority of people
Black people, Native Americans, many mixed-raced people
Impoverished; Worked on small subsistence farms, in mines, or on haciendas (plantations)

- Social life did not change much
- Slavery and legal distinctions between the races were abolished, but divisions remained in reality



Facing the World Economy



- 2nd half of 1800s = many countries in Latin America became more stable and started to integrate into the world economy driven by the industrialization of the U.S. and Western Europe
- Rapid growth of Latin American exports to these countries
 - Industrialized countries needed food products, raw materials, and markets of new Latin American states

Facing the World Economy



<u>Latin American Country</u>	<u>Export(s)</u>
Mexico	Silver
Chile	Copper (for electrical industry); nitrates (for fertilizers)
Bolivia	Tin (for tin cans)
Peru	Guano = bird droppings (for fertilizers)
Amazon rain forest	Wild rubber (for bicycle and car tires)
Central America	Bananas
Argentina	Beef
Ecuador	Cacao
Brazil and Guatemala	Coffee
Cuba	Sugar



Facing the World Economy



- In exchange for these goods, Latin American countries received: textiles, machinery, tools, weapons, and luxury goods from Europe and the U.S.
- European countries and the U.S. also invested capital (\$\$) in Latin America
 - Mostly to build railroads there to help funnel exports to the coast

Becoming Like Europe? Latin American Progress



- Economies growing and producing more
- Population growing
- Public health measures
→ safe drinking water, sewers, inoculations, etc.
- Rapid urbanization



Mexico City in the late 19th Century

Becoming Like Europe?



Immigrant family from eastern Europe arriving in Buenos Aires, Argentina in the early 19th century

- To become more like Europe, Latin America wanted more actual Europeans
 - Targeted impoverished European immigrants
 - Promised them a new and prosperous life in the New World → most promises unfulfilled

Effects of the Export Boom on Society

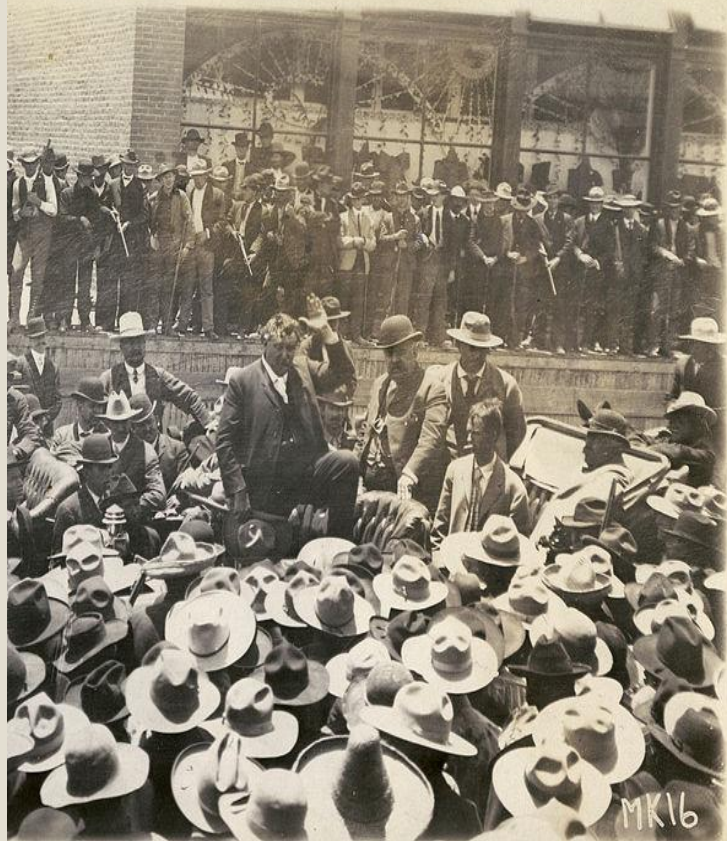


- Upper-class landowners (1% of population) = gained as exports continued and their property values soared
- Middle-class urban dwellers (8% of population) = grew in numbers and prosperity
 - Skills = valuable in a modernizing society
 - Professionals, lawyers, merchants, office workers, etc.
- Everyone else = lower class = mostly impoverished
 - Lived in rural areas
 - New segment of lower class = urban workers → worked in mines, ports, railroads, and a few factories



Miners at Chihuahua, Mexico, 1868

Effects of the Export Boom on Society



A crowd of Mexican workers being addressed during the miners' strike in 1906

- Latin American urban workers created mutual aid societies, organized unions, and engaged in strikes to protest their harsh work environment and conditions
- Authoritarian governments = acted harshly to crush unions and strikes
 - Wanted stability and progress in Latin America

The Mexican Revolution



- Local protests and violence were frequent, but only in Mexico did this erupt into nationwide revolution
- Middle-class reformers joined with workers and peasants to overthrow the long dictatorship of Porfirio Diaz (1876-1911)
 - Peasant armies under charismatic leaders like Pancho Villa and Emiliano Zapata helped oust Diaz



The Mexican Revolution



- 1910-1920 = decade of bloody conflict that followed
 - About 1 million lives were lost
- Goal = to seize land and redistribute it to the peasants
 - Many of Mexico's large haciendas attacked

New Mexican Constitution (1917)

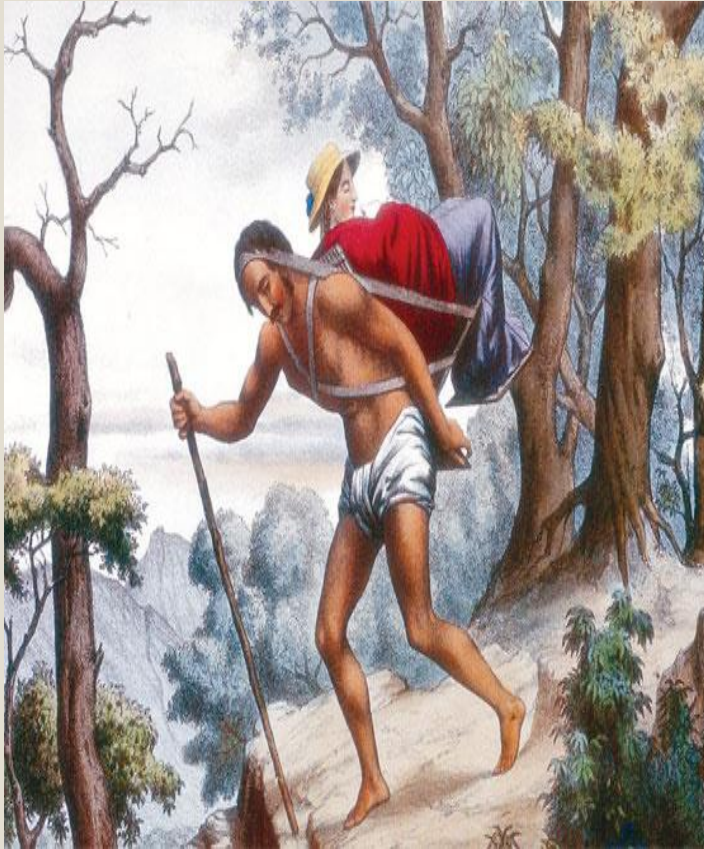


- Proclaimed universal suffrage
- Provided for redistribution of land
- Stripped Catholic Church of any role in public education
- Forbade Catholic Church from owning land
- Minimum wage law
- Eight-hour workday
- Restrictions on foreign ownership of property
- **Mexican Revolution's influence = limited to Mexico; did not have a wider impact



The Constitution of 1917
Painting by Jorge Gonzalez Camarena

No Industrial Revolution in Latin America: Why Not?



Depiction of the lower class supporting the upper classes

- 90% of its population = in an impoverished lower class
 - Very small market for manufactured goods
- Economically powerful groups (landowners, cattlemen, etc.) = benefited from exporting agricultural products
 - Little incentive to invest in manufacturing
- Political leaders embraced free trade
 - Meant no tariffs on foreign products – so domestic manufacturing companies couldn't compete

Latin America's Economic Growth



- Latin America's economic growth = financed by capital from abroad
- Latin America became dependent on European and North American prosperity and decisions
- Many U.S. companies allied with landowners and politicians in Latin America to set up businesses there
- “New form of colonialism” → indirect, behind the scenes power exercised by foreign investors



The United Fruit Company was a U.S.-owned company in Guatemala