

A.P.U.S.H UNIT #3 AGE OF JACKSON
REFORM MOVEMENTS DURING JACKSON'S TIME.

American society as it approached mid 19th century was the product of;

rapid growth in population
movement between rural to city
a complex economy with the addition of women and children.
changes in democratic philosophy
the idea that everyone (white) had the right to fulfillment of self.

The by-product:

serious challenges to traditional values and institutions.
social instability. (2nd Great Awakening)
uncertainty about the future.

The result;

emergence of the Reform Movements
desire for order and control
search for stability, discipline and simpler times.

Reform movements took many forms:

1. Vision of Utopia

Communal living for the betterment of the individual.

Brooke Farm:

vision of Bostonian George Ripley (Unitarian Minister)

other members, Nathaniel Hawthorne, Horace Greeley, Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Goal: to create a new society where all members had a full opportunity to
self realization. All residents would share equally in the labor and the leisure .

Failure: in fighting over workload/share of income/greed along with poor farming
technique and a fire dissolved the experiment.

New Harmony:

Founded by Robert Owen a Scottish industrialist and philanthropist.

A "Village of Cooperation" all residents live/work in total equality.

Failure: financial disaster, issues of equality with women

Nashoba: Nashville, Tenn.

Founded by Frances Wright, an experiment to end slavery by allowing it to pay
for itself. Supported by Andrew Jackson, LaFayette, Thomas Jefferson.

Failure: word of abuse, sexual misconduct doomed support for experiment.

Oneida Community

Founded in upstate NY. by John Noyes.

residents called themselves "perfectionists", they rejected the traditional ideas of
marriage & family. Noyes declared all residents married to each other with no
permanent conjugal ties. "Bible Communism".

Failure: Known in NY as the community of unrestrained free love, children raised
communally often having little contact with their actual parents. Societal
uproar caused John Noyes to flee to Canada to save his life.

Mormon Community

Established in upstate NY by Joseph Smith, similar to Oneida they preached polygamy, rigid social order and secrecy. Chased out of NY to Illinois, Smith was jailed and shot to death, key disciple Brigham Young moved 12,000 followers to Utah to shield themselves against the disorder of the secular world.

2. Improving Society:

Religion: Revivalism in the west to save society from savagery
Log Colleges trained ministers to move west to save their brethren
James McGready provided an emotional outlet for the perils of frontier living. Revival camps drew thousands who traveled for days to "hear the word". There was much emotionalism and "fire and brimstone" in the sermons to excise the devil.

Temperance: John B Gough and the Washingtonians worked hard to bring the nation to an understanding of the effects of the "demon rum" upon mankind. Effects: some states began to pass prohibition laws to outlaw alcohol...little effect.

Care of the Insane: Dorothea Dix spearheaded efforts to humanize treatment of the mentally ill. To end the evils of restraint, cattle pens and torture.

Improving the prison system: tried to put an end to solitary confinement and beatings, to bring more social contact and rehabilitation to the system.

Reservation Movement: Get Native Americans out of harms way, prepare them for Assimilation.

Womens Movement: Women played a central role in most of the reforms, they confronted the problems in a male dominated society. They resented their limited participation in democracy and began the call for equality.
Key reformers: Lucretia Mott, Harriet Beecher Stowe, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Dorothea Dix.
Seneca Falls Convention 1848 Frederick Douglass, keynote speaker.

Abolitionism: Anti-Slave Society William Lloyd Garrison....*****civil war here!