

# HISTORY PART 3

c. Analyze the impact of Reconstruction on Georgia and other southern states, emphasizing Freedmen’s Bureau; sharecropping and tenant farming; Reconstruction plans; 13th, 14th, and 15th amendments to the constitution; Henry McNeal Turner and black legislators; and the Ku Klux Klan.

After the Civil War, there was a time period called Reconstruction. This was an era when the South had to recover (and literally be reconstructed) after being destroyed during the war. There were two types of Reconstruction – literal rebuilding of the South, and the *mental* rebuilding of the South and its old way of life. The North wanted to change the way the South viewed the former slaves. This was a difficult and racially charged time period.

After the Civil War, there was a time of adjustment, especially for the slaves. The former slaves (called freedmen), had literally nothing - no home, no job, no education, and no one to protect them. The **Freedman’s Bureau** was established at this time to help former slaves adjust to their freedom. The bureau educated the former slaves and gave them food and shelter.



There were three Reconstruction plans that were developed to help the South.

- 1) **Abraham Lincoln’s plan** only called for 10 percent of each state to take an oath to the United States. Unfortunately, Lincoln was assassinated before he could go through with his plan.
- 2) **Johnson’s plan for Reconstruction** asked that the Southern states ratify the 13<sup>th</sup> Amendment, which banned slavery.
- 3) The last plan for **Reconstruction was made by Congress**, who felt that Lincoln and Johnson were too “soft” on the South. They wanted the South to ratify the 13<sup>th</sup> AND 14<sup>th</sup> Amendments (the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment gave equal rights to citizens).

When the South refused to ratify the 14<sup>th</sup> Amendment, they were placed under military rule.

The **Ku Klux Klan** was the white supremacist organization that tried to keep the former slaves from getting rights. They hated the new Amendments and tried to keep African-Americans from voting. This organization led to the Georgia Act, which again placed Georgia under military rule.

The former slaves often found jobs as tenant farmers and sharecroppers because there was no other work they could find. Anyone (no matter their race) could be a tenant farmer or sharecropper. **Tenant farmers** were workers who brought *something* into the relationship with a land owner (a mule, equipment, etc). **Sharecroppers** had nothing to bring into a relationship with a landowner. They often worked difficult lives and ended up in debt (owing money) at the end of the year. Both of these situations were terrible and difficult.

Here are a few of the Amendments, dudes (remember an amendment is a change to the Constitution).

13<sup>th</sup> Amendment – banned slavery

14<sup>th</sup> Amendment – gave equal rights to all men

15<sup>th</sup> Amendment – gave all men the right to vote

**Henry McNeal Turner** was one of the first African-American legislators in the Georgia General Assembly. Unfortunately, he was kicked out of office. The GG&A told Turner (and other legislators like Tunis Campbell) that they had the right to vote but not the right to hold office.



Henry McNeal Turner

# THE NEW SOUTH

**SS8H7 The student will evaluate key political, social, and economic changes that occurred in Georgia between 1877 and 1918.**

- a. Evaluate the impact the Bourbon Triumvirate, Henry Grady, International Cotton Exposition, Tom Watson and the Populists, Rebecca Latimer Felton, the 1906 Atlanta Riot, the Leo Frank Case, and the county unit system had on Georgia during this period.
- b. Analyze how rights were denied to African-Americans through Jim Crow laws, Plessy v. Ferguson, disenfranchisement, and racial violence.
- c. Explain the roles of Booker T. Washington, W. E. B. DuBois, John and Lugenia Burns Hope, and Alonzo Herndon.
- d. Explain reasons for World War I and describe Georgia's contributions.

Georgia underwent a vast deal of changes during this time period. This was an era when Georgia slowly began to make its change from the "Old South" based on agriculture and slavery, to the "New South," one filled with progress and change. Unfortunately, Georgia failed to modernize concerning equal rights.



**Rebecca Latimer Felton** was a woman who fought against the Bourbons in her columns in her newspapers. She attacked their treatment of poor and prisoners. She lived to be 95 years old and fought for the poor, women's rights, and against alcohol.

Georgia's **Bourbon Triumvirate** (Bourbon after a line of French kings, Triumvirate means "ruling group of three" in Latin) was a group of men who served as governors (or in Congress) during the post-Reconstruction time period. The three leaders (Brown, Colquitt, and Gordon) attempted to make some progress in Georgia, but they did not help the poor and they did little to help those in the prisons.



Rebecca Felton

Henry Grady was a journalist and spokesperson who came up with the concept of the "New South." Grady wanted the South to start industrializing and improving, and fought hard to help the South improve.



The **International Cotton Exposition** was a fair in Atlanta that Henry Grady organized to help bring new industry to the South. The ICE had exhibits of new farming technology, as well as speakers (like Grady and Booker T. Washington). This exposition brought in thousands of visitors to the "New South."

**Tom Watson** was a very controversial (means he caused lots of drama) leader in Georgia. He was a part of the **Populist Party**, a party that tried to help farmers. Under this party, Watson sponsored the **Rural Free Delivery Bill, a law that gave rural (country) people their mail.** **Watson also was very vocal in the Leo Frank Case.**



The **county unit system** was a system invented to give the rural counties in Georgia more power. With this system, Georgia's most populated counties were given six county unit votes, the medium-sized counties had four, and small counties two votes. There were so many rural counties, the "twos" added up – and the rural counties controlled elections.

# CIVIL RIGHTS

During the time period after Reconstruction, many people fought for equal rights for African-Americans, and many events took place that dealt with equality and racial tension.

The **1906 Race Riots** took place in Atlanta in 1906 (obviously). Stories of false violence in Atlanta newspapers discussed African-American men attacking white women. Tensions took to the street, and men began to fight. Mostly African-Americans were killed, but whites were killed, too.

The Leo Frank Case was one of the most controversial in Georgia's history. It focused on Leo Frank, a Jewish factory manager. Frank was accused of murdering and assaulting Mary Phagan, a 14 year-old employee of his factory. This case brought up a lot of racial tension, and it also brought back a revival of the KKK in Georgia.

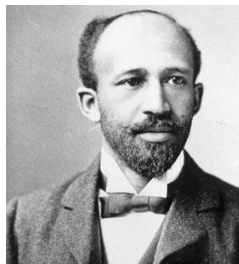


After the Civil War, white Southerners struggled with the concept of equality.

- 1) First, **Jim Crow Laws** (named after an old racist show featuring a racist character named "Jim Crow") were laws that tried to segregate (separate) facilities for whites and blacks. A U.S. Supreme Court case called **Plessy v. Ferguson** addressed the issue – even though Homer Plessy was 1/8<sup>th</sup> black, the **Supreme Court still said that states had the right to create "separate but equal" facilities** for whites and blacks.
- 2) African-Americans were often disenfranchised (**disenfranchisement means to take away voting rights**). The KKK used violence to keep African-Americans from voting, and whites used other methods (such as the Grandfather Clause, poll taxes, and literacy tests) to keep other races from voting.
- 3) **Racial violence** often kept African-Americans from equality. The Ku Klux Klan was the driving force behind these violent episodes.

There were many African-Americans who fought for equality during this time, such as....

**Booker T. Washington (top)** was a former slave who gave the famous "Atlanta Compromise Speech" and founded the Tuskegee Institute, a trade school. He believed progress and equality was a SLOW process for African-Americans. He believed that African-Americans should be patient and wait for equality.



**W.E.B. DuBois (bottom)** was a founder of the Niagara Movement, which later became the NAACP (National Association for the Advancement of Colored People) and he wrote a book called the Souls of Black Folk. DuBois felt that equality for African-Americans should come instantly and that African-Americans should have a higher education.

John and Lugenia Burns Hope were two Georgians who fought for equality for African-Americans. They agreed with the ideas of DuBois. John was a member of the NAACP and he helped with education for African-Americans. Lugenia founded the Neighborhood Union, an organization that helped African-American neighborhoods.



# WORLD WAR I

World War I was the first global war. It was fought from 1914-1918, and technological advancements during this time led to millions of deaths in this war.

## REASONS FOR WWI

**The Allies** – France, Great Britain, Russia (it left after the Russian Revolution), the United States.

**The Central Powers** – Germany, Austria-Hungary, the Ottoman Empire

During this time period, European countries were able to communicate more effectively and become more aware of each other and what the other countries were doing. The European countries formed two different groups of alliances – the Triple Entente, and the Triple Alliance. Both groups agreed to “have the other’s back” if they were attacked by the other group. Tensions in Europe **boiled over when the Archduke Ferdinand of Austria-Hungary was assassinated by a Serbian** (Serbia and Austria-Hungary had issues with each other). After the assassination, European countries declared war on one another like crazy! Germany is given most of the credit for wanting to start the war – it had a desire to take over Europe.

At first, the US did not enter the war. It remained neutral (meaning it didn’t take a side). However, it did trade with Britain a great deal. Two things led the US into World War I....

The sinking of the British ship *Lusitania* in 1915 was one of the reasons the US entered WWI. Even though this was a British ship, the US lost over 100 lives when this ship sank.

Another cause was the *Zimmerman Telegram*, a telegram from Germany to Mexico. This telegram asked for Mexico to attack the United States and join Germany in the war against the Allies. This telegram made the US angry and got the country involved in the war.



When the United States went to fight in WWI, Georgians jumped at the chance to contribute. Their contributions were:

1. Georgia sent over 100,000 troops to war
2. Georgia had many key military bases that trained troops.
3. Georgia housed a prisoner of war camp
4. Georgia’s civilians rationed (portioned out) goods and gave money (through bonds) to the war effort. They also grew victory gardens to help out.