

# Lecture 7: Empire 1870-1914

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# **iClicker: Do You Have an iClicker?**

- A: Yes
- B: No
- C: Not sure
- D: What's an iClicker?

# **Administrivia**

- Office hours: back to Thursdays 11-12:30

# Democracy and Socialism

- The Demands of the Left Up Until 1914
  - Suffrage
  - Education
  - Health, welfare, pensions
  - Food and Drug
  - Unionization
    - Regulation of working conditions and hours
- Antitrust
  - Especially railroads
  - Not much more: socialism and anarchism remain on the fringe--whatever Theodore Roosevelt might claim about the Democratic Party

# Pre-1900 Socialism: Gotha Program

- The German Socialist Party in 1875 Demands:
  - [1] Labor is the source of all wealth... the whole product... belongs... by equal right, to each according to his reasonable needs...
  - [2] The means of production are a monopoly of the capitalistic class...
  - [5] The socialist labor party of Germany endeavors by every lawful means to bring about a free state and a socialistic society, to effect the destruction of the iron law of wages by doing away with the system of wage labor, to abolish exploitation of every kind, and to extinguish all social and political inequality..
  - [7] The Socialist labor party... demands the establishment of socialistic productive associations....
  - [8] Universal suffrage... secret ballot, freedom of the press, free and compulsory education... the greatest possible extension of political rights and freedom... a single progressive income tax... unlimited right of association [i.e., unions] normal working day... prohibition of work on Sunday... of child labor and all forms of labor by women which are dangerous to health or morality; laws for the protection of the life and health of workmen, sanitary control of workmen's houses, inspection of mines, factories, workshops, and domestic industries by officials chosen by the workmen... regulation of prison labor.
- Karl Marx criticizes plank [1] as “utopian”--which, to Marx, was a very bad word indeed.

# Empire

- Rudyard Kipling:

Take up the White Man's burden—/ Send forth the best ye breed—  
Go, bind your sons to exile/ To serve your captives' need  
To wait, in heavy harness/ On fluttered folk and wild—  
Your new-caught sullen peoples,/ Half devil and half child.

Take up the White Man's burden—/ In patience to abide,  
To veil the threat of terror/ And check the show of pride;  
By open speech and simple,/ An hundred times made plain,  
To seek another's profit/ And work another's gain.

Take up the White Man's burden—/ The savage wars of peace—  
Fill full the mouth of Famine/ And bid the sickness cease;  
And when your goal is nearest/ (The end for others sought)  
Watch sloth and heathen folly/ Bring all your hope to nought....

Take up the White Man's burden,/ And reap his old reward—  
The blame of those ye better/ The hate of those ye guard—  
The cry of hosts ye humour/ (Ah, slowly!) toward the light:—  
“Why brought ye us from bondage,/ Our loved Egyptian night?”

# Democracy and Nationality

- Back in the old days, in Europe at least, the people who mattered didn't much care what language people spoke...
- In the new days of democracy, nationality--what language people speak--somehow becomes very important.
- The German-Polish borderland
  - Malthusian population pressures on land/labor ratios
  - Rapid industrialization
- Max Weber as a German liberal...

# European Language Map, 1800



# iClicker: Three Big Books Question

- By now you have read a bunch from Hobsbawm, Eichengreen, and Frieden--rather more from Jeffrey Frieden. Which book is your favorite so far?
  - A: Hobsbawm
  - B: Frieden.
  - C: Eichengreen.
  - D: None of the above.
  - E. There are books to read?

# Informal Empires

- A world economy requires “rules of the game”
  - Since the start of the world economy as we know it in 1870, there has always been one huge player--one conductor of the global economic orchestra
    - Britain
    - Interregnum
    - America
  - Economic leadership enforced by jawboning, by the offering of carrots--and by occasional gunboats
    - Irian Jaya, East Timor, Israel/Palestine, Namibia, Bosnia, Kuwait...

# Formal Empires

- Dominion over palm and pine
- Machine-gun empires
- Who escapes:
  - Ethiopia
  - Thailand
  - Nepal
  - Tibet
  - China
  - The peculiar case of South America...

# Why Empires

- Con game?
  - Hobson
  - Schumpeter
  - Different predictions of the future
    - Hobson: more and bigger imperialisms
    - Schumpeter: imperialism is on the wane...
- The Great Illusion
  - Norman Angell
- Pre-WWI South Africa

# Pre-WWI South Africa

- Dutch settlement
- English conquest
- The Great Trek inland
- Gold
  - Chemistry
  - Labor
  - Railroad
- Jameson Raid
- Boer War

# India and Egypt

- India
  - East India Company
  - Sipahi Rebellion
  - Kaiser-i-Hind
  - “Net of Railways”
- Egypt
  - Mamlukes
  - Cotton
  - Mehmet Ali
  - Ismail
  - Suez Canal