Chapter 16 Section 2

NEW FORMS OF ENTERTAINMENT

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**Vaudeville and Minstrel Shows**

- Vaudeville consisted of comic sketches based on ethnic or racial humor; song-and-dance routines; magic acts; performances by ventriloquists, jugglers, and animals.
  - [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SA6wYvVnq4g](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SA6wYvVnq4g)
  - [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fNwVSvJw-5I](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fNwVSvJw-5I)
  - [http://juggling.tv/176](http://juggling.tv/176)
  - [www.youtube.com/watch?v=VYc1PHEm2AI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VYc1PHEm2AI)

- Minstrel shows featured actors in blackface (exaggerated make-up caricaturing African Americans) doing exaggerated imitations of African American music, dances, and humor.
  - [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hfz5QHmJ8aM&feature=related](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hfz5QHmJ8aM&feature=related)
  - [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZlIJppDFoXI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZlIJppDFoXI)

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**Movies**

- The Great Train Robbery was the first film. It was released in 1903.
  - [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bc7wWOmEGGY](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Bc7wWOmEGGY)
  - By 1908 the nation had 8,000 nickelodeons – theaters set up in converted stores or warehouses that charged a nickel admission.

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**The Circus**

- The introduction of the circus train in 1872 made the circus an anticipated event.

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**Full length dramas**

- Full length dramas featured new stars such as Mary Pickford and Douglas Fairbanks; Charlie Chaplin appeared in comedies.
- Early movies were silent and often accompanied by a live piano player.
  - [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79i84xYelZI](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=79i84xYelZI)
Amusement Parks

- The technology of the trolley led to the development of amusement parks and mechanical rides like the steeplechase, Ferris wheel, and the roller coaster.
- Amusement parks featured music, games of skill, vaudeville productions, bathing beaches, and exciting rides.

Coney Island

Review

- What was vaudeville?
- What was the difference between vaudeville and a minstrel show?
- What was the first movie? Where did most people watch movies?
- What helped the circus to gain popularity at the turn of the century?
- What new technologies made amusement parks possible?

Sports

- Many enjoyed boxing and horse racing, but baseball was the most popular sport.
- By 1860, groups such as firefighters, police officers, and teachers had formed baseball clubs.

Baseball

- The first true professional team was formed in 1869 – the Cincinnati Red Stockings.
- By the 1870’s the best players were being paid.

Football

- Football emerged as a popular sport when Walter Camp began adapting the European game of rugby in the 1880’s.
Basketball

- Basketball was invented in 1891 by physical education teacher Dr. James Naismith of Springfield, Massachusetts, to keep athletes fit during the winter.

A bicycle fad swept the nation in the late 1800’s.

- Women’s participation in sports led to the acceptance of shirtwaists (ready made blouses) that were tucked into shorter or split skirts.

Women began playing basketball, but specialists thought that stiff competition and hard physical exertion were unhealthy for women, so they devised less demanding “women’s rules”.
- Women also participated in ice skating, tennis, gymnastics, and swimming.

Review

- What was the most popular sport at the turn of the century?
- What was the first professional baseball team?
- Who is credited with developing the modern game of football?
- Who invented basketball? Why?
- How did women’s participation in sports change fashion?

Newspapers

- In the late 1800’s, publishers created new features such as comics, sports sections, Sunday editions, women’s pages, stories “hot off the presses”, and graphic pictures.
- Between 1870 and 1900, newspaper circulation soared from 2.6 to 15.1 million copies a day.
- Publishers urged their reporters to discover lurid details of murders, vice, and scandal to sell more papers. This is known as yellow journalism.
Magazines

- Magazines such as McClure’s, Cosmopolitan, and Munsey’s appeared weekly or monthly and contained helpful articles.
- Many of the popular magazines featured stories appealing to the average American’s desire and determination to succeed.

Popular Fiction

- Dime novels, inexpensive books with wide readership, were popular.
- Authors included Henry James, Edith Wharton, Upton Sinclair, and Mark Twain.
  - http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/authors/m/mark_twain.html
- Some wrote using local color, a type of writing that describes the people and places of particular regions of the United States.

The Negro Spiritual

- A series of concerts by the Fisk Jubilee Singers in 1871 helped to make American music more inclusive by introducing African American religious folk songs called spirituals to white audiences.

Ragtime

- Ragtime originated among black musicians in the South and Midwest in the 1880’s.
- Scott Joplin’s Maple Leaf Rag became a huge hit across the country.
  - http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fPmruHzsSaQ

Jazz

- Jazz began in the diverse culture of New Orleans.
- New Orleans jazz styles slowly worked their way North along the Mississippi River.

Music at Home

- The player piano was played when a paper roll was played by wooden “fingers” to reproduce the music recorded on the roll. Foot pedal activated the machine, requiring no skill on the part of the player.
  - http://www.ragtime.org/links/oldfiles/1510w/videos/01_1510w🦐.mp4
The phonograph was invented in 1877 by Thomas Edison.
It was selling at the rate of 500,000 per year by 1914.

Review
- Why did newspaper circulation increase at the turn of the century?
- What is yellow journalism?
- What does it mean if an author writes using local color?
- What new genres of music were developed during this time?
- How were people able to enjoy music at home?