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Discussion

The famous thinker Albert Camus said, “We cannot escape history, we are up to necks in it.” This is true when one explores the annals of history, one finds that all history is a living affair. American society is facing several pressing issues today, and so was the case in the past. It would not be an exaggeration that the gilded age was the most important period in the American history. It was the period of enormous changes such as social, political and economic. This is the phase when the American society went an overhaul and witnessed dramatic changes. This age was the direct consequence of the era of reconstruction after American civil war. So, it combined with the progressivism as well. At first several, t it was considered an era of innovation and discovery where millions of patents were issued to the innovators in America, and it helped the rise of American nation in the world.

However, this period became the gilded age for Mark twain as he observed several drawbacks in that era of modernity. He mentioned that this progress is not progressive at all. Not every aspect of life is getting progressive (Twain). This was primarily of the reason that it ushered an era of cartels, monopolies, big corporations in the country. Big business enterprises- Rockefeller, Shell- became the hallmarks of this periods in US history. One another negative impact was that the rich capitalist class got hold of the political power and there was no remedy for the poor class. People became unemployed and distressed. More crimes prevailed and the several other social issues emerged. Thus, it is not doubt that gilded age is the most significant phase in American history as it facilitated the rise of America, but also brought forth several critical social issues in the country.

 **Works Cited**

Twain, Mark, and Charles Dudley Warner. *The Gilded Age: a tale of today*. Penguin, 2001.