

History 225

Re: Notes w/ End of an Era

Counterrevolution Triumphant(Phase II)

Rollback of the Klan by 1873 was possible for two reasons:

The lack of effective organization blunted their efforts. Equally important, was the willingness of the federal government to take at least minimal action against southern terrorism.

But phase II of the counterrevolution was successful. White Democrats conducted effective propaganda campaigns against the Republican govts. rally whites into the Democratic party against the rise in taxes and the "corruption" issue. Applying lessons learned from the failure of the Klan, Democrats used intimidation and force in a very carefully calculated way to undermine the Republican governments without provoking federal intervention.

Also capitalized on the waning support of the North for any new cycle of military intervention.

See case study in text with the overthrow of the Republican govt. in Louisiana.

Lecture on the "Mississippi Plan."

*Comp. By Gumpert*

*Recede - 1874 Elections - ha. - "Battle of Liberty Place"*

*use of phase II*

History 225  
Page three/addendum

C. The Mississippi Plan(1875)

The South was determined to achieve Home Rule. After the collapse of the Klan in <sup>1873</sup>1873, the South was increasingly able to read the signals coming out of the North that support for the southern reconstrction policy was eroding away at an accelerated pace.

Mississippi whites southerners were anxious to push even harder against the vascillation and dwindling interest in Southern affairs.

The provisions of the plan were direct and uncomplicated enough:

1. carpetbaggers were warned out of the state or face the consequences.
2. politically active blacks were economically blacklisted.
3. Sheer intimidation at the polls and the breaking up of Republican political rallies by force or the threat of force.

*White - Driving out of Negroes*

The slogan of the Mississippi redeemers was "Carry the election peacefully if we can, forcibly if we must."

When Republican governor Ames wrote to Grant for federal protection the Attorney General Edward Pierrrpont wrote back that "The whole public is tired of these annual autumnal outbreaks in the South."

Translation: You are on your own. Sink or swim.