

Session Four

Idea of America:

Our Future - Our Economy

Our Economy is Born

1776

Thomas Jefferson: The Declaration of Independence

Adam Smith: The Wealth of Nations

The Legitimate Role of Government in Our Economy

Hamilton vs. Jefferson

A National Bank?

Manufacturing vs. Agriculture

Wall Street Investment Bankers vs. “Common Folk”

Abraham Lincoln and Infrastructure Investment

Intercontinental Railroads

National Currency

Homestead Acts

Agricultural Technology

Land Grant Colleges

Teddy Roosevelt and Progressive Economic Policies

Anti-Trust Actions

Consumer Protection

Environmental Protection and Preservation

Government Regulation

Franklin D. Roosevelt and Economic Rights

The right to a job

The right to adequate food and clothing

The right to a decent home

The right to a good education

The right to social security

Ronald Reagan and Economic Freedom

The freedom to work

The freedom to fruits of one's labor

The freedom to own and control one's property

The freedom to participate in a free market

A Legacy of Economic Growth

Land of opportunity

Importance of education

Investment in infrastructure

Research and technology